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Editorial

Just as Bush lied about WMD, so he lies now about the virtues of the Iraqi constitution.

What do you think? Send an e-mail to letters@phx.com

Bush lies, they die

Thoughts on Iraq, its very bad constitution, and a cowardly press

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH DID SOMETHING REMARKABLE SEVERAL DAYS AGO. HE ACTUALLY mentioned the number of Americans who have died in Iraq — 1864 and climbing.

Bush's reference to the dead comes at a time when his standing in opinion polls is lower even than Richard Nixon's during the depths of Watergate. In those days of constitutional crisis Nixon mustered an approval rating of 39 percent. Today, Bush scores 36 percent.

Bush spoke in a context intended to bolster support for the Iraqi constitution, a seriously flawed document that is a recipe for intensifying the low-level civil war now being waged by that gang of out-of-nation Islamic terrorists and in-state die-hard supporters of Saddam Hussein who have come to be known collectively as insurgents.

Rather than promote a Western-style pluralistic democracy, the existing Iraqi constitution contains more loopholes than the US tax code. The worst of these loopholes can be used to deny women liberties and rights while simultaneously opening the door for religious courts to review and overturn civil, secular legislation.

So much for democracy in Iraq, the latest reason Bush cites as justification for his war and the death and dismemberment of our soldiers, not to mention the even greater number of casualties suffered by Iraqi civilians.

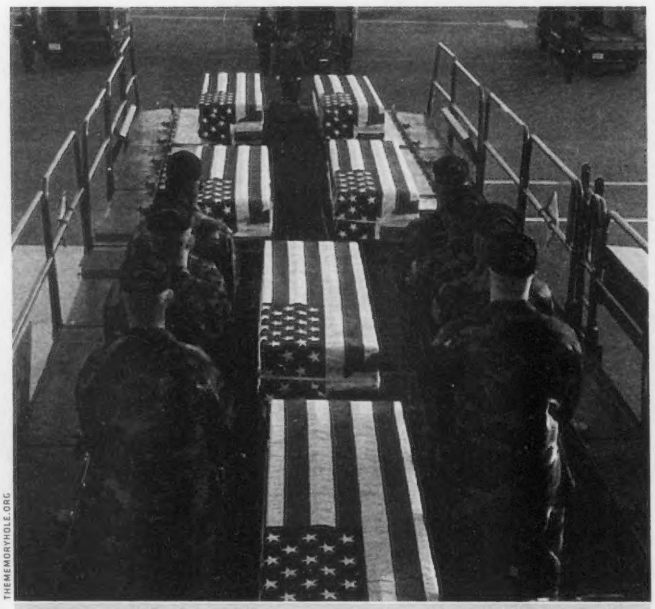
Just as Bush lied about the threat posed by nonexistent weapons of mass destruction, and just as he lied about the direct threat Iraq posed to the United States as a staging ground for international terror, so he lies now about the virtues of the Iraqi constitution.

Bush wants his war to appear antiseptic, relatively bloodless and bodiless. A complicit and cowardly mainstream press passively collaborates with a cold and calculating White House to keep the images of carnage out of the sight of a squeamish — if not any longer docile — public. The rest of the world may be free to see and know the truth. Americans, in the Bush scheme of things, are free to be ignorant.

But, as the polls show, even ignorance is not infinitely elastic. It appears to have a hard limit, and Bush seems to have hit it. More than two years of lies and hollow optimism have finally caught up with the president.

Perhaps that is why the story of Cindy Sheehan has had such resonance. As a mother who lost her son in this dubious adventure, Sheehan has a claim on the hearts and minds of the Middle America from which Bush — like Nixon before him — draws his support. He and his henchman, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, may bar access to images of the coffins coming home, but the reality that these men and women died for their lies is just too powerful to deny any longer.

The day after Bush spoke, Greg Mitchell, the editor of the newspaper trade's flagship publication, *Editor & Publisher*, called on the nation's newspapers to advocate US disengagement and departure from Iraq. It's time, Mitchell said, for daily newspapers, which did so much to ease the nation into war, to call for a phased withdrawal. Once a few do so, he argued, "they will show it is safe for others to stick their toes in the water."



THEMEMORYHOLE.ORG

BUSH'S WAR DEAD return home.

While Mitchell's words are welcome, they are disturbing just the same. The press doesn't have the courage to say what the people already know: Iraq was a terrible mistake.

That truth may be why President Bush has failed to attend the funeral of a single uniformed man or woman killed in Iraq. Could it be that in his heart he knows he was wrong?

MORE-MUSCULAR ARTS

ASO is not exactly a household acronym. It stands for an arts-service organization. What's that? It is an outfit — sometimes small, sometimes not, and usually strapped for cash — which helps arts groups or individual artists achieve their goals. There are more than 30 operating in Massachusetts. They range from the mainstream, such as Arts Boston (dedicated to — among other things — helping performance and presenting organizations like the Museum of Fine Arts or the Huntington Theatre build audiences), to the academic, such as the BU-based Photographic Resource Center. A recent study by the Boston Foundation called ASOs "unacknowledged gems of the cultural ecosystem." Their role is to work behind the scenes and help deliver the arts to a larger public.

The reason this particular Boston Foundation report is so important is that it is the third in a series of studies laying out a blueprint for how the arts community can leverage existing strengths and address shortcomings in order to thrive — or at least survive — in an unwelcoming and even hostile economic environment.

The Boston Foundation found that "[t]here is great, if unrealized potential within Metro Boston's arts service organizations. But this potential can only be reached if a select few of these agencies choose to combine their assets to create organizations with greater capacity, stronger impact, and higher visibility through mergers, alliances, or the sharing of back office operations." The message is clear: innovate.

The two previous Boston Foundation studies led in a very real way to House Speaker Salvatore DiMasi's bold and innovative proposal now pending for state investment of $250 million over the next 10 years in culture and arts at no cost to taxpayers. This new study is a call for the sometimes fractious, often (paradoxically) innovation-shy, arts world to join their political representatives and step up to the plate. It's an opportunity not to be squandered. ◉

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Letters

Police action

Thank you for doing important investigative reporting on the Boston Police Department's inability to solve murder cases ("The Worst Homicide Squad in the Country," News and Features, August 19). Now, if only the powers that be would actually care about the situation. I work as a bar advocate in the juvenile courts. What would happen if Suffolk County assistant district attorneys refused to put forth evidence they felt was tainted or erroneous? What if they actually took their oath to do justice seriously? Ah, but I daydream.

Carol Fernandez
Newton

Write us
Letters may be mailed to the *Boston Phoenix*, 126 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215; faxed to 617. 859.8201; or e-mailed to letters@phx.com or to staff writers' e-mail addresses (e-mailed letters must include a telephone number for verification and a hometown). All letters are subject to editing for considerations of space, fairness, and clarity.

I want to commend you for the article on the staggering shortfalls within the Boston Police homicide unit. The issues you highlight — from incompetent, untrained fingerprinting "experts," to detectives who immediately jump to conclusions about a case without so much as talking to key witnesses, to the high arrest rates when the murder victim is female, white, or young — should alarm all citizens of Boston. Not only are murderers on the loose, but those of us who may be called to sit on juries can be certain of neither the competence nor the honesty of the Boston Police Department.

What I find most upsetting is that this tragic injustice is being perpetrated by our police, and yet none of the major media outlets has touched the story. If your article proves one thing, it's that the Boston Police won't change a thing unless media scrutiny is focused on them. Meanwhile, murderers are going without punishment, victims and their families are going without justice, young black men are being wrongfully accused, and all of us are becoming just a little less safe.

ELIZABETH ABBOTT
CAMBRIDGE

I am a middle-aged white male. My own experience is that sloppy work, disregard for authorized police procedures and the law, and contempt for the public is the norm. I have gone from being embarrassed by the police to being afraid of them. In 2003, I was a juror in a Suffolk County felony case. The black and Latin jurors did not believe the police. The judge's instructions noted that "the testimony of the police" was just another piece of evidence for our consideration. Given police performance in the past couple of years, it will be interesting to see what happens to the conviction rate in Boston.

At least the current situation has proven again the wisdom of our Founding Fathers. They saw the inherent dangers of giving the police too much power.

I suggest your staff carry video cameras. Boston is also known for retribution.

GARY (LAST NAME WITHHELD)
BOSTON

WRITING ON THE WALL

Cool to see a front-page story on graffiti ("The Graffiti Hunter," News and Features, August 12). Greggebee seems to be doing a fine job documenting painters. However, the article made no real mention of street artists who use stickers. All over town, you can find pieces by both the ubiquitous Darklouds and Cubeface, who has recently also branched out into wheat paste — his EVERYTHING WENT BLACK post nods to Black Flag and Raymond Pettibon. There are also the Total Kenobi and Dropping the Fagan stickers, which everyone's been talking about.

SUPERNATURAL CACHE
BOSTON

This Just In_

Quotes + Numbers

20 million
NUMBER OF PEOPLE WORLDWIDE WHO HAD BEEN USING VIOXX WHEN IT WAS PULLED FROM THE MARKET LAST FALL BY MANUFACTURER MERCK AFTER STUDIES SUGGESTED THAT THE PAINKILLER DOUBLED A USER'S RISK FOR STROKE OR HEART DISEASE

$253 million
DAMAGES AWARDED LAST WEEK IN THE FIRST VIOXX-RELATED CASE TO GO TO TRIAL

4200
NUMBER OF PENDING LAWSUITS INVOLVING VIOXX

$18 billion
AMOUNT ANALYSTS HAVE ESTIMATED WILL BE MERCK'S TOTAL LIABILITY AFTER ALL VIOXX-RELATED CASES ARE RESOLVED

Casey Sheehan

One of 1873 regulars

Casey Sheehan sold shoes. When careless customers left soiled nylon socks or shoebox packing materials on the floor, he'd clean them up. When kids purposefully swapped shoes and put them in different boxes, he'd reunite the correct mates. He also emptied garbage, restocked shelves, swept stockroom floors, and completed various other mundane tasks that come with a job in retail. I know this because for two years we worked together at a low-end department store called Mervyn's in our California hometown.

Like most employees at our store, Casey wasn't great with customers. He was shy and sometimes awkward, and could be unfriendly to clientele and co-workers alike. All reasons, I thought, that he eventually left the shoe department and started working in the back room, a job code-named "logistics," where he concentrated on tracking inventory and replenishing stock. On logistics, Casey roamed the cavernous back rooms alone most days stuffing new products, such as towels and sheet sets and soap dispensers, onto wooden shelves, visiting the store's various departments to deliver goods or conduct price checks. Yet Casey and I still had our problems. When I'd call him on our store-issued walkie-talkies to request assistance, he'd rarely respond with a sense of urgency. I never thought the guy liked me very much.

Bronwyn Garrison, my best friend's wife, dated Casey in high school, where they both took theater classes and performed in a staging of an obscure play, *Good Morning Ms. Dove*. Garrison says that Casey was an Eagle Scout and an altar boy. He played video games and liked *Star Trek*.

As Casey's mother, Cindy Sheehan, prepares to resume her protest on a dusty roadside in Crawford, Texas, people across America have divided into two camps: those who put Cindy on a pedestal, and those who say she's exploiting her son's sacrifice to advance her own political agenda (or that she's being exploited by the left). But for those who actually knew one of the soldiers killed in Iraq — even if he was a guy in the shoe department who didn't like you very much — Casey Sheehan's mom is performing a service in the absence of the coffins.

Casey never struck me as anything other than a regular guy. There's nothing wrong with that, and for once in America we should celebrate a hero for what he really was. There were 1872 soldiers just like him. _Neil Freese

Master Of Your Domain

THE SPONGE IS BACK

Now, every guy can be "sponge-worthy" again.

The new Today contraceptive sponge won full FDA reapproval in April, and it should hit drugstores by next month.

The sponge, introduced to American women in 1983, was a popular birth-control choice until 1995, when bacteria were discovered in the only factory that manufactured the product in the US. Fearing for their sex lives, enthusiasts stocked up on as many sponges as they could find — and, like Elaine on *Seinfeld*, sometimes had to weigh whether or not a guy was worth wasting a precious sponge on.

The contraceptive sponge — which contains spermicide, can be inserted long before the action begins, and can be left in for 24 hours — is a practical choice for women who don't want to deal with the side effects and strict routine that comes with the Pill or other hormonal birth-control methods. A few other considerations, however: spermicide doesn't taste delicious, the sponge doesn't protect against sexually transmitted infections, and its efficacy hovers around 90 percent (about the same as a condom). _Deirdre Fulton

Falling Goliaths

Warner plans to ditch CDs for e-label concept

It was bound to happen. In the era of iPods and MP3 blogs, compact discs are about as useless as dial-up modems. This past Monday at an conference in Aspen, Colorado, Warner Music chairman and CEO Edgar Bronfman Jr. declared that his company's future would lie in the tenuous concept of an "e-label," an online means of distribution that will have e-label artists release three songs at a time, rather than entire albums every couple of years. And, perhaps most important, the bands (Green Day, Hot Hot Heat, and Madonna are in Warner's stable) will retain all the copyrights to and ownership of their master recordings.

Nicholas Reville, director of Downhill Battle, thinks the major labels are ready to crumble. "There's just no real place for giant corporate music companies in the real-level online market," says Reville, whose Worcester-based nonprofit has been working to reform major-label monopolies since 2003. "If things keep moving in that direction, then why would you need these layers and layers of management?"

"I don't think this is meant to interest developing artists who desperately need marketing support," theorizes Newbury Comics CEO Mike Dreese. "It's of interest to bands like Radiohead whose income comes from different streams and [who don't] necessarily want to tie up their musical rights for more than a couple of years." Nevertheless, Dreese is aware that with the death of the CD, the notion of brick-and-mortar record chains is also in danger. "We are no longer gatekeepers of access to content, and that's a tough change," he admits. "That's [also] what's so exciting: consumers are going to rule the world. It's a matter of everybody else recognizing that reality and saying, 'What can we provide?'" _Camille Dodero

Tell Someone Who Cares

Would you think twice about using a product if you knew your money was going to conservative causes?

Go to BostonPhoenix.com or send an SMS ["Yes" or "No"] to 22122 to weigh in.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS Should President Bush meet with Cindy Sheehan a second time? **Yes 71% No 29%**

Reality Check

_BY DAVID SIPRESS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO UPGRADE TO "COACH PLUS"? YOU'RE STILL IN COACH, BUT YOU HAVE AN UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW OF ALL THE GOINGS-ON IN FIRST-CLASS.

Wayne&Wax

THE BOSTON JERK

Wayne Marshall is "rhyme kickin'." He's "more Jamaican than Kentucky Fried Chicken." He's "so sexy the girls dem follow me with aspirin and Pepsi." He's the Boston jerk.

At least that's what the self-mocking chorus avers in Marshall's four-minute "theme song" from *Boston Jerk* (Wicked Wicked Records), a 26-track release credited to his musical nom de beats, Wayne&Wax. *Boston Jerk* is the audible product of six months spent in Jamaica researching hip-hop and reggae for his dissertation in ethnomusicology, the cultural study of people making music. Since the phrase "Boston jerk" is familiar in Jamaica, referring to a small coastal town known for its jerk-style cooking (and, strangely, KFC is the island's most popular restaurant), the 29-year-old native Cantabrigian employed the references as stabs at self-parody. "Who but a jerk would come 'from foreign' and try to say something new about Jamaican music, culture, and society?" Marshall writes in the liner notes.

A Harvard grad with an undergrad degree in English, Marshall started rapping when he was 13. He dabbled in bands throughout his time at Cambridge Rindge and Latin. Five years ago, he began making music with computers. Since then, he's become not only a musical scholar, but a laptop DJ, a homegrown producer, an after-school teacher, and something of a respected music blogger. He is currently finishing his dissertation through the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a 100-pages-plus paper that focuses predominantly on the musical migration of one specific "riddim" — reggae parlance for rhythm — first used in Alton Ellis's 1967 song "Mad Mad Mad." That riddim ended up in 100-plus subsequent tunes, from Yellowman's "Zungunzung" to Black Star's "Definition" to Tego Calderon's "Bonsai."

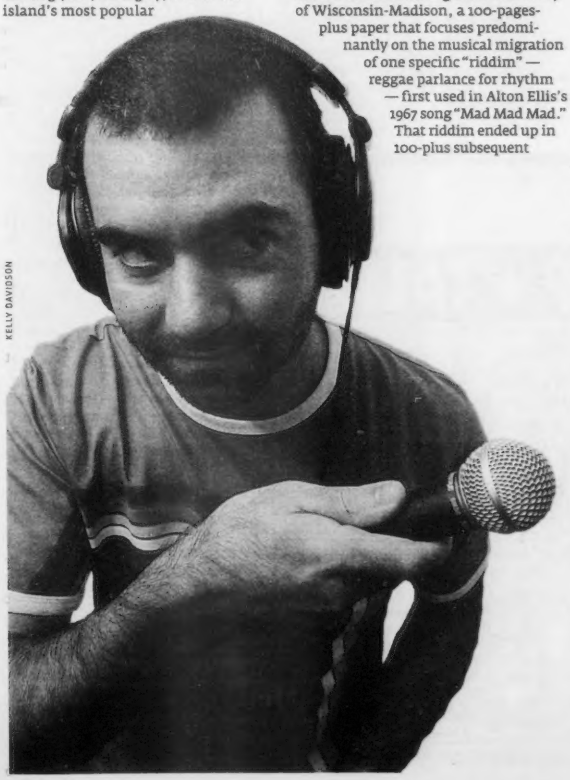
"I can't submit *Boston Jerk* for [academic] credit, unfortunately," says Marshall. "I do think that it's actually pretty crucial to my study: it expresses things that I can't express in writing. And I like the idea of scholarship moving outside of its traditional realms and embracing technology and embracing the arts." Crouched over his laptop in the living room of the Cambridge apartment he shares with his computer-programmer wife, Becca, Marshall clicks through a track list in the sequencer software Fruity Loops Studio and smiles. "I think I'm going to sneak it in as an appendix."

Marshall is something of a sound collector. While working as a substitute instructor in the Cambridge public-school system, he brought along a mini-disc recorder and a mike to capture "these amazing little moments of hilarity or beauty" that kept happening in the classroom. His recordings culminated in 2002's *No Substitute*, a 20-track release of rhymes interwoven with "musique concrete" snippets: students pledging allegiance to the flag, a looped backing track made entirely of splashing water, a dance-hall rhythm arranged from clanging school bells and slamming books. He says, "I'm into these little moments of the everyday."

Marshall takes that same approach on *Boston Jerk*. His idea of a rap skit is a conversation about authorship backed against bug noises. He morphs dog barks, matutinal roosters, radio samples, and taxi-driver conversation bits into musique-concrete-style arrangements.

"What this [approach] really grows out of is the way that hip-hop trained my ears to listen for loops," explains Marshall. "I was listening for loops in Bob Dylan and jazz and gamelan music before I was listening for loops in the world around me. That really comes out of hip-hop and its sample-based tradition and the way that it gets people to listen to the world differently."

_Camille Dodero



KELLY DAVIDSON

Wayne Marshall plays an electro-Carib mix'n'mash this "Wicked Wicked Thursday" at River Gods, 125 River Street, Cambridge | 21-plus | free | 617.576.1881. The following Monday, August 29, Marshall traces the "Mad Mad" riddim through 30 years of reggae and hip-hop at the Enormous Room's "Beat Research" at 567 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge | 21-plus | free | 617.491.5550. Visit wayneandwax.com.

Park 'n Roll

SIGN LANGUAGE

The City of Boston got cute when trying to communicate with the citizens of Stones nation for this week's concerts. Ten tow-zone signs were posted around Fenway, featuring not-so-clever Mick-related quips like " 'You Can't Always Get What You Want' so don't even think of parking illegally," "We 'Get No Satisfaction' by towing you: park legally," and "You will be 'Waiting on a Friend' to drive you home if you park here."

So what will the city do when other acts that deserve their own tow signs come to town? Here are some suggestions.

DEAD KENNEDYS "If you're 'Too Drunk To Fuck,' you're too drunk to be driving and shouldn't be parking here anyway."

RADIOHEAD "We just want 'Everything in Its Right Place.' So park legally, you hipster scum."

TOAD THE WET SPROCKET "You wouldn't want this night to be remembered as 'Towed the Wet Sprocket.' "

STEPHEN MALKMUS "Pavement broke up, so stop trying to park on it."

MICHAEL JACKSON "You might be a 'Smooth Criminal,' but don't even think about parking here (oh, and don't sleep in the same bed with little boys)."

Kinda makes you long for the "Greetings from Asbury Don't Park Here" sign from the Springsteen show.

This Just In_

"I WAS DRUNK THE DAY MY POOR OLD MAMA GOT OUT OF PRISON."

One of a series of cardboard signs spotted alongside Park Street church last Wednesday night, presumably placed there by the homeless man sleeping beside them. Others included "YOUR MAMA GAVE ME A HELLUVA BLOW JOB," "YANKEES VERY DEFINITELY SUCK," "BOSTON WOMEN ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN THE WORLD," "GEORGE BUSH RULES YOU SIMPLE BASTARDS," "VOTE FOR JOHN KERRY: ASSISTANT DOG CATCHER," and "I ♥ ISRAEL."

The Right To Grow

A second chance for pot?

Dr. Lyle Craker, a professor of plant and soil sciences at UMass Amherst, has been trying since 2001 to get a license from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to grow research-grade marijuana for use in Food and Drug Administration–approved studies of the plant's potential to become a legally prescribed medicine. Last December, after more than three years of stonewalling, the DEA officially rejected his application, holding that his study "would not be consistent with the public interest." (See "Up in Smoke," December 17, 2004.)

Now Craker, along with the Belmont-based Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) and the ACLU's Drug Law Reform Project, is challenging that ruling. Hearings began in Washington this week before DEA administrative-law judge Mary Ellen Bittner. Supporters hope the proceedings will end the DEA's obstruction and remove the federal government's monopoly on research marijuana.

In the wake of the *Raich v. Ashcroft* decision in June, in which the Supreme Court affirmed that federal law supersedes state law in matters of drug enforcement, FDA approval is really the only avenue left for medical marijuana. Before that can happen, there must be studies into its safety and efficacy. "We have considerable lay information about the potential health benefits of this plant material, but we lack the scientific studies that are necessary to prove the value of medicine," Craker told the *Phoenix* in December. "The first step in that is producing quality plant material that will have bioactive constituents in it."

POT LEAF PHOTO BY FLINT BORN

But at the moment, all marijuana used for research in the US comes from a closely monitored crop maintained by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The complainants in the Craker case maintain that the supply is insufficient, and of inadequate quality, for proper research — let alone for prescription sale should the FDA ever approve it. Moreover, the feds are stingy in distributing the plants. MAPS president Rick Doblin says that just last week, NIDA refused to provide 10 grams of marijuana for a MAPS-sponsored vaporizer study at Chemic Labs in Canton.

Last month, Democratic Massachusetts representatives John Olver and Michael Capuano sent a letter to DEA administrator Karen Tandy, expressing "strong support" for issuing Dr. Craker's license and pointing out that NIDA's monopoly makes little sense since the DEA has licensed privately funded production of other Schedule I drugs, such as MDMA and LSD. (MAPS has funded studies using independently produced MDMA and psilocybin.)

"The government is basically scared of this research," says Doblin, during a break in testimony. "They want it two ways. They want to say there's not enough research to make marijuana into a medicine, and they want to block the research." Still, he feels reasonably confident that the DEA's decision might be reversed. "My sense is that the judge is fair, she's asking good questions, I have a lot of respect for the way she's interacted with us so far." Time will tell if his optimism is well-founded. There will be another week of testimony toward the end of September, and another (if need be) in December, before Judge Bittner makes a recommendation to the head of the DEA. In the meantime, Doblin will be commenting nightly on the goings-on in Washington at www.maps.org/weblogs/rick. _Mike Miliard

Special Election

Four pols, $500,000, one winner

In a late-summer special-election primary, it's hard enough to find anyone likely to vote, let alone to convince those people which of four viable options they should choose.

That's why four Democratic candidates are spending about a half-million dollars to fill Charles E. Shannon's vacant state Senate seat (Shannon died of cancer in April). Ten thousand voters throughout parts of Medford, Somerville, Woburn, and Winchester are expected to go to the polls on August 30.

Among the candidates, Patricia Jehlen, currently a state representative, has spent the most money — about $90,000 through the August 12 campaign-finance-reporting date — and has almost $60,000 more in the bank. Her long-standing support for progressive issues, including reproductive rights and gay marriage, has helped her gain the backing of some key special-interest groups, which have pitched in with their own mailings and provided her with volunteers.

Former state rep Joseph Mackey also has considerable liberal credentials. He's spent just over $80,000; his big-ticket gamble was a flashy CD-ROM handout that not only pushed his message, but got him extra press coverage.

Due to a family medical emergency, Michael Callahan, a member of the Governor's Council, has not filed his required pre-election finance report, but most of his spending can be gleaned from previous filings. Callahan claims to have spent roughly $80,000, and to have $33,000 left. He's used mailings and automated "robocalls," but also plans to knock on plenty of doors.

And finally Paul Casey, another representative looking to move to the Senate, has spent only a little over $40,000. That's gone almost entirely to mailings and phone calls; he claims to have personally knocked on 10,000 doors, more than anyone in the race. As the least-liberal candidate — he opposes gay marriage, for instance — Casey may well enjoy the advantage of standing out against the others.

The winner will take on the lone Republican, William White Jr., in the general election. _David S. Bernstein

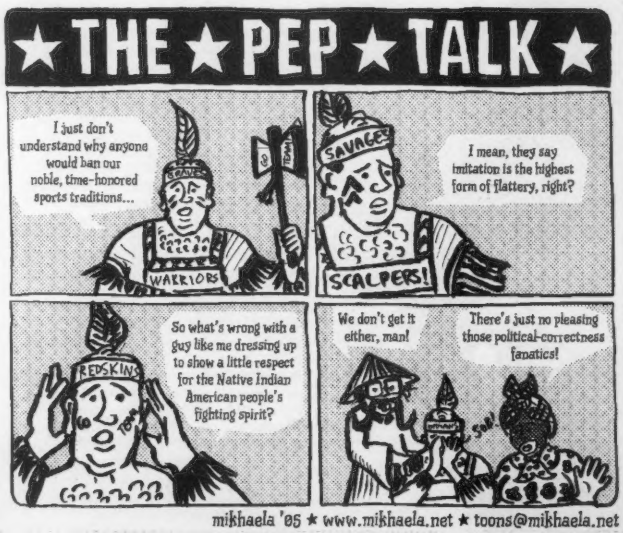
Green Report Card

BAY STATE NEEDS EXTRA HELP

On Tuesday, a consortium of environmental organizations gave Massachusetts a C-plus — down from last year's B-minus — on actions taken to mitigate global warming. Local organizations such as Clean Water Action, the Conservation Law Foundation, and MassPIRG called on the Bay State to move more aggressively toward achieving the goals set forth in Governor Mitt Romney's 2004 Climate Protection Plan. That measure was implemented to fulfill an ambitious emissions-control plan adopted by the six New England states and five Eastern Canadian provinces in 2001.

The report suggests the state must pay more attention to reducing transportation emissions (public-transit ridership is at an all-time low), encouraging renewable-energy innovation, and revamping power-plant regulations. Of the 11 states and provinces that signed on to the plan, only New Hampshire, Vermont, and Nova Scotia scored lower than Massachusetts — which emits the greatest quantity of harmful gases by far. _Deirdre Fulton

The Boiling Point _BY MIKHAELA B. REID



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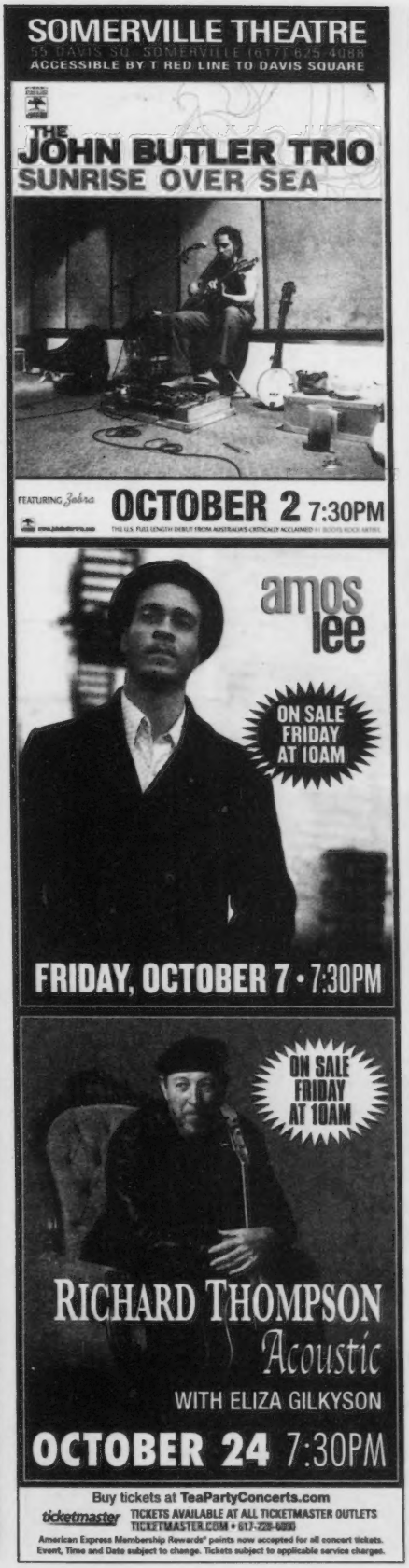
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_COMPILED BY IAN SANDS

Flashbacks

5 YEARS AGO | AUGUST 25, 2000

KING LOUIS

JON GARELICK DISCUSSED THE INDELIBLE MARK THAT LOUIS ARMSTRONG LEFT ON POPULAR MUSIC.

"And yet, one famous witness after another attests to Louis's all-pervasive, radical influence. There's Miles Davis's 'You know you can't play anything on the horn that Louis hasn't played – I mean, even modern.' In his notes to *The Hot Five and Hot Seven Recordings*, Robert G. O'Meally cites Ellington's reported imprecation to his band members that they *all* try to sound like Armstrong – from brass to reeds to rhythm. And then there's Bing Crosby's summation of Armstrong as 'the beginning and end of music in America.'"

15 YEARS AGO

PURPLE REIGN

AUGUST 24, 1990 | **TIM RILEY FOUND PRINCE A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.**

"When you think about it, what Prince has set in motion ought to pose a much bigger threat to moral hacks than any warning label can flag. The very notion that a black kid from Minneapolis could, in 10 flashy years, establish himself as an international superstar with his own record label and stable of artists, and direct his own widely distributed movies — this isn't the kind of power Tipper Gore and her kind would like to hand over to a musical nympho with a sex fetish a mile wide."

20 YEARS AGO

POLITICS AS POP

AUGUST 27, 1985 | **STEVEN STARK READ WILLIAM A. HENRY III'S *VISIONS OF AMERICA: HOW WE SAW THE 1984 ELECTION*.**

"Yet, as valuable as Henry's book is to the general public, in the end it can teach a more important lesson to political journalists: in the media age, politics is culture. So, in 1988 here's some advice the boys on the bus should remember: don't bother to interview Richard Nixon or even Nancy Reagan. If you want to understand what's happening, go see Roone Arledge or maybe even Steven Spielberg."

35 YEARS AGO

CULTURE CLASH

AUGUST 25, 1970 | **ED SIEGEL TRACED THE ROOTS OF RACIAL TENSION IN MATTAPAN.**

"The elderly Jews remember the days when Blue Hill Ave, the main thoroughfare of Mattapan that runs through Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan and ends at the Milton border, was 'theirs.' Blue Hill Ave and vicinity was where their wives shopped, where they bowled, hung around on summer nights, and maybe even owned a kosher-meat market or clothing store; where the children went to school and where politicians from Franklin Roosevelt on down came to campaign. The community of Mattapan was probably as tight as any community in Boston has ever been. Communities, when they actually exist, bind people together. When the community is made up of one ethnic group, however, it seems to have the opposite effect of making the members see themselves in a chauvinistic vacuum. As blacks began to move into the neighborhood, slowly at first, Jews became paranoid and resentful."

FOR MORE PHOENIX FLASHBACKS GO TO BOSTONPHOENIX.COM

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

News of the Weird

MOMS GONE WILD

In separate incidents on Tuesday, July 26, mothers in Falls Church, Virginia, and Zephyrhills, Florida, kicked their young sons (ages four and seven, respectively) out of their cars on busy highways and abandoned them as punishment for back talk. Channoah Alece Green, 22, in Virginia, even knocked her son down while driving off on I-495 as he tried to climb back in. The problem addressed by Lori Heine, 46, in Florida, was that her son wanted a McDonald's Cheeseburger Happy Meal when she had already bought him a McNuggets Happy Meal.

PERVS GONE WILD

In incidents two weeks apart in July, men in New York City and Trenton, Ohio, arrived for Internet-chat-room-arranged trysts with "teenage girls" (who were, of course, police officers operating stings), even though they apparently could not find baby sitters. Alan Schaefer, 43, was arrested in Greenwich Village while walking down a street with his 14-month-old son in one arm and holding the hand of a very young-looking policewoman. Would-be Clinton Township, Ohio, politician Hank Hill was arrested when he showed up to meet a "14-year-old girl." According to WEWS-TV, in his truck were Viagra, condoms, lubricant, and his 22-month-old son.

SCROTUMS GONE WILD

In Brentwood, New Hampshire, on July 30, police responded to an emergency call to find an intoxicated man with a padlock around his scrotum. He was taken to Exeter Hospital, and a locksmith freed him. The day before that, in Worcester, England, Geoffrey Hughes, 51, was given a two-year "anti-social behavior order" in Magistrates Court for a series of incidents, one of which was appearing in public wearing only a hat and, on his scrotum, a padlock.

ARTISTS WHO GO TOO FAR

The Thames Water company succeeded in pressuring artist Mark McGowan to abandon his project at the House Gallery in south London in July in which, to protest society's profligate use of water, he turned on House's faucet and planned not to turn it off for a year (wasting an estimated 3.9 million gallons). And in Chicago, it was only a couple of days after photographer Kerry Skarbakka announced his "Falling" project that he was pressured into abandoning it. Skarbakka said he was awed by the sight of people falling or jumping from the World Trade Center on September 11 and said he would, in tribute, repeatedly plunge four stories from Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art (but was quickly excoriated for poor taste).

LEAST-COMPETENT PEOPLE

Adam Tyson, 18, Jason Krueger, 20, and two pals were hospitalized in Clermont, Florida, in July with severe bee stings after imprudently deciding to vandalize a beehive colony in an orange grove; their truck got stuck in the sand just after they had set 50,000 bees swarming.

LEAST-JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDES

Erik K. Low, 37, was convicted of manslaughter in Salt Lake City in June for fatally shooting a friend who had just moments before given him a "wedgie." And Judy Castillo-Thomas, 29, was acquitted of manslaughter in July in Brooklyn, New York, even though she admitted accidentally stabbing her husband to death after he had beaten her and taunted her for having buttocks that were "too small."

RECURRING THEMES

Among the more astonishing repeat stories in "News of the Weird" are reports of people who had somehow managed to swallow their toothbrushes. The Saudi Press Association reported in January that doctors at King Abdul Aziz Hospital in Taif had removed a toothbrush from the stomach of a 70-year-old man (who claimed to have accidentally swallowed it 22 years ago). And in July, the Associated Press reported that a Taiwan surgeon had removed an accidentally swallowed, eight-tooth lower denture from the bronchial tube of a 45-year-old man. The man said he had misplaced the denture three years ago and had been looking everywhere for it. ◉

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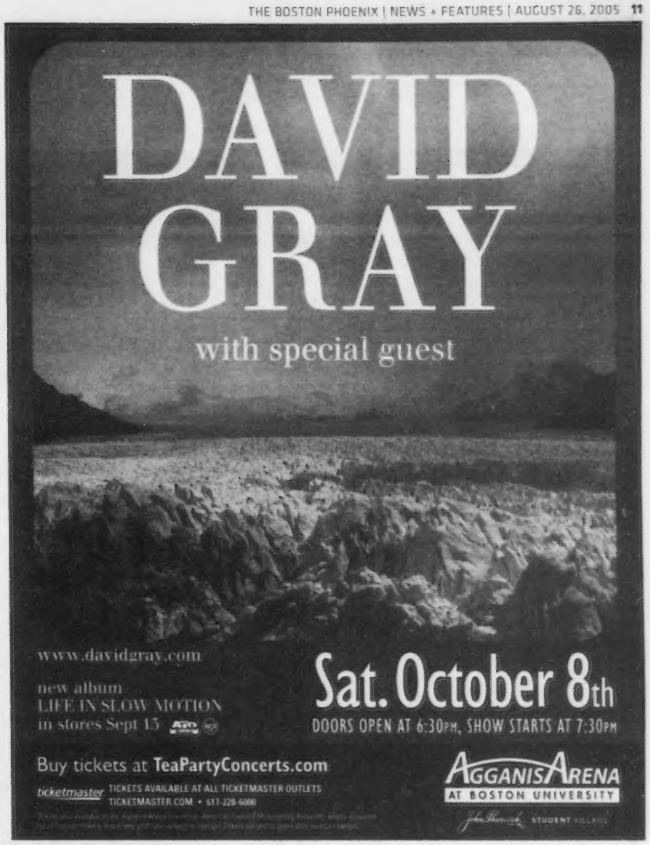

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THE PATRIOT AX

THROUGH VIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT OF OLDER IMMIGRATION LAWS, THE US IS KICKING OUT PERMANENT RESIDENTS FOR OFFENSES LIKE SMOKING POT AND DRIVING WITHOUT A LICENSE _BY DEIRDRE FULTON

HIS THICK MASSACHUSETTS ACCENT, AND HIS SLIGHT AND MUSCULAR BUILD, MIGHT GIVE MARKUS YOUNG AWAY AS YOUR TYPICAL SOUTH SHORE TOUGH. HE GREW UP DOWN THE STREET FROM THE BEACH, ATTENDED Hull High School, spent a few semesters at Quincy Junior College, and after 20 years working as a plumber, he's going back to school for official certification so he can start his own plumbing business with a childhood friend. For the past 36 years of his life, he's lived in Hull and Quincy.

But if the US government has its way, Young, 39, may soon be kicked out of the United States and sent back to Germany — a country he hasn't lived in since he was three years old.

Young is no babe in the woods. In fact, he's made several mistakes — he's gotten caught possessing small amounts of marijuana (more than once); he's also been nabbed for driving under the influence of Valium, and driving without a license. They're relatively minor infractions, perhaps typical of a guy still trying to find his way in the world. Or, as his father puts it, "Mark is thoroughly a product of America, reflecting its virtues and, unfortunately, some of its faults." But in 2004, the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) bureau compounded Young's relatively minor convictions — which, taken individually, aren't felonies — into an "aggravated felony," or a deportable offense. And as a result, Young has spent the past 371 days sleeping in a gymnasium alongside 63 other immigrant detainees inside the Bristol County Jail.

Already-strict immigration laws, combined with more-energetic enforcement and increased funding in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, leave many permanent residents like Young — people who have green cards, jobs, and families here in the United States — fighting grave consequences for minor crimes. All in the name of combating terrorism.

LEGAL RESIDENTS WHO HAVE ALREADY SERVED TIME FOR THEIR OFFENSES ARE DETAINED INDEFINITELY, IN MOST CASES WITHOUT BAIL, AND IN MANY CASES WITHOUT A LAWYER.

TO GET THE LADIES

Markus Young was born in Germany, to Edith Baumann, a German citizen, and an American soldier who was briefly stationed there. Shortly before Markus was born, the soldier rotated back to Fort Riley, Kansas. Edith and her children never heard from him again.

Later, Edith married Rod Young — another American soldier — who adopted Markus and his siblings. Young was three years old when his new father brought the whole family back to the United States. They have lived in the second story of a two-family house in Hull ever since.

It was there that, in hindsight, Young made his biggest mistake. Although his siblings chose to become naturalized US citizens — mainly because they wanted to join the armed forces — Young, for whom military life held little appeal, chose instead to retain his status as a permanent resident with a green card, like his German-born mother.

Why? His father hypothesizes that his son thought European citizenship might earn him points with women. Indeed, when Young describes his youth, that's not hard to believe. "I guess you could say I was a ladies' kind of guy," he says with a laugh. When his two best friends from the block were too shy to approach women on the beach, Young would often chat up not one but three girls at a time. Being German was something exotic.

But beach life soon went awry, and Young fell in with what he calls "the wrong type of people." Of those choices, he says, "I regret being stupid and going down the criminal way."

He paid for his mistakes with a short stay in Plymouth County Jail for driving without a license and simple marijuana possession. It was near the end of that sentence when ICE agents — who routinely sift through criminal records at county jails, looking for convictions that constitute aggravated felonies within immigration law — picked him up.

That was August 20, 2004. The soft-spoken plumber has been in the Bristol County Jail gym ever since. He is one of 750 individuals — most of whom are Hispanic or Middle Eastern — currently in the custody of ICE's Boston Field Office, which has jurisdiction over New England. Each of these detainees costs the government about $90 a day, according to Michael Gilhooly, ICE's director of public affairs for the region.

Rod Young calls it "a national game of 'Gotcha,'" in which ICE, a branch of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) armed with a sizeable budget and favorable public opinion, prosecutes immigrants indiscriminately, lumping drug traffickers with mere shoplifters under the same aggravated-felony provision.

COURTESY OF ROD YOUNG

MARKUS YOUNG could be deported to Germany, a country he hasn't lived in since he was three years old.

The policy, introduced as part of the 1988 Anti-Drug Abuse Act, was originally conceived to address major drug crimes perpetrated by noncitizens. For the most part, aggravated felonies combated murder or drug-and-weapon trading. But 1996's Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IRAIRA) expanded the list to include drastically less-significant crimes, including those for which offenders serve just one year or less in jail. While the measure initially targeted undocumented immigrants, advocates say that since 9/11, an increasing number of legal residents like Young have gotten pulled under along the way. (It's difficult to say how much those numbers have really changed, since all aliens who have been in the country for more than one year are included in the same category. They make up about 25 percent of all deportations.)

"ICE is using all these types of tactics in the name of homeland security," says Paromita Shah, director of the Boston-based National Immigration Project. "I think there's been a handful of arrests that are related to terrorism. It's outrageous. They're focusing on people with very minor criminal convictions."

NOT JUST TERRORISM

It's tempting to pin the current harsh immigration climate on a post-9/11 mentality. After the terrorist attacks of 2001, Congress formed Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and has since funneled billions of dollars toward immigration enforcement as one way to root out potentially dangerous aliens.

But immigration advocates say it all began back in the 1990s, with IRAIRA. Indeed, DHS

EDITH AND ROD YOUNG'S SON MARKUS has spent the last year in jail and is targeted for deportation thanks to the government's ramped-up immigration-law enforcement.

MARK OSTOW

statistics show a leap of nearly 125 percent in formal immigrant removals between 1995 and 1997, from 50,924 to 114,432. The difference is that now, enforcers are under more pressure, publicly and financially, to detain and deport. By 2003, deportations and removals reached 186,151. DHS highlights the increase in criminal cases (like Young's), "including those pertaining to narcotics and terrorism." Those numbers jumped 116 percent between 1994 and 1999, and another four percent between 2002 and 2003.

"What September 11 has done is give this national-security veneer," says Washington, DC–based immigration lawyer Joan Friedland, of the National Immigration Law Center. "So then you argue, 'Look, this doesn't have anything to do with national security.' But people are frightened and they'll accept anything that . . . makes people feel better."

"Everybody — our side too — cares about national security," she adds, pre-emptively addressing a soft-on-terror accusation. "But wouldn't you prefer measures that actually mean something?"

Instead, we get smoke and mirrors, Shah says. "ICE flags certain dangerous individuals, and puts them on their Web site as people who are dangerous to society and dangerous to our communities. They certainly don't put up, or we don't hear about, the thousands of people who have served a sentence [and] who now have an aggravated felony.

"And those people are connected to their families, have jobs, pay their taxes, are members of society for all intents and purposes," she continues. "I think what ICE has done is capitalize on that system . . . to bring them in and then say, 'Oh, look at all these dangerous criminal aliens we're deporting.'"

As a result, legal residents who have already served time for their offenses are detained indefinitely, in most cases without bail, and in many cases without a lawyer. (In immigration court, unlike in the criminal system, lawyers are not guaranteed.)

"In the ICE world, you're guilty until proven innocent," Young says. And "it's taken its toll." One of the worst effects? Since he's been in jail, Young's girlfriend of seven years has left him. "That was [a] killer," he says.

But even immigrant advocates place more blame on the policy than on those who enforce it. "ICE is really in a pickle of enforcing a broken law," says Ali Noorani, executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

Relief could come in the form of the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act of 2005, introduced this May by Senators John McCain (R-Arizona) and Edward Kennedy (D-Massachusetts). Known by immigration reformers as the McCain-Kennedy Act, it would bolster enforcement while making it easier for immigrants to navigate the system, become citizens, and understand both their rights and responsibilities, proponents say.

"The challenge right now is that things moving against the immigrant community are moving much more quickly and much more loudly," Noorani says. "The emphasis is on enforcement. Congress would much rather spend money on detaining, deporting, and keeping people from actually entering the country" than on helping immigrants.

SHRED OF HOPE

The Youngs, whose already-cluttered apartment now overflows with legal papers and manila file folders, have spent upwards of $5000 on legal fees, plus several thousand more on research and phone bills. In late September, Young's lawyers will try to prove their client's derivative citizenship.

And they may just have a case. Over the past year, armed with only the name of Young's biological father (which the *Phoenix* agreed to keep confidential), the Youngs followed a paper trail of personnel and motor-vehicle records to the man's last-known address in South Carolina. At the end of June, Rod Young, along with Markus's half-brother and brother-in-law, drove straight through the night to procure a paternity test from the surprised and skittish man. The saliva-test results (99.9994 percent accurate) prove Markus Young's American ancestry. Now, his lawyers are weaving together state laws with immigration regulations, building a strong case for his citizenship.

If these efforts don't work, Young will be shipped to Germany, a country where he doesn't know the people, the language, or the customs. He will be unable to seek readmission to the United States for 10 years.

Rod Young wonders how his son's pot smoking threatens national security. "How are you guys protecting us from terrorism?" he asks into a void. "I've never seen a greater boondoggle bureaucracy."Certainly, nothing prepared Young and his parents for the past year's ordeal, nor can anything ready them for the very real possibility that he will be deported. His mother, who now sees her son only in handcuffs and shackles, seems still to be in shock. "He has no knowledge of Germany," she says with a lingering accent when asked to envision the worst-case scenario. "He grew up here." ⊙

To access links related to this story, read it online at BostonPhoenix.com. Deirdre Fulton can be reached at dfulton@phx.com.

BY MARK JURKOWITZ

Don't Quote Me

THE ROMENESKO EFFECT

HOW A MEDIA WEB SITE IS CHANGING THE FACE – AND PACE – OF MEDIA CULTURE

Public life has sped up dramatically over the past 10 years or so. Politicians, Hollywood, corporate chieftains, and other newsmakers all have had to learn how to respond to news instantly – as it's being made. Call it "The CNN Effect," a phrase that entered news jargon in the 1990s when the phenomenon jelled, thanks to the instant flood of real-time images of suffering and conflict transmitted from hot spots like Iraq, Somalia, and Bosnia. Cable television — fortified by talk radio — shattered older, more-leisurely news cycles and replaced them with a new form of instant reality that was more treacherous for the players and more emotionally charged for audiences and readers.

Now, a decade later, comes what we'll call "The Romenesko Effect" — named after Jim Romenesko, who started a media Web site six years ago — which is transforming the news industry in a similar fashion. Using the new technology of the Internet to infuse newsroom scandals, gossip, and griping with tradition-soaked debates about journalistic ethics and practices, Romenesko and other online practitioners have democratized the closed and often-secretive news culture and put pressure on media executives to act more quickly under far greater scrutiny. The result: a heightened perception of public accountability.

In the old days, media controversies might merit mention in places like *Newsweek* or the *Columbia Journalism Review* and would stay entombed inside the journalism world. Now, they instantly erupt into national scandals that bounce around the media echo chamber and often penetrate the broader public consciousness. Sometimes, they even end up on the pages of the media outlets where the problem originated.

A number of online sites now serve as clearing houses for journalism-related news and analysis. They include the Daily Briefing by the Project for Excellence in Journalism, a media-research center and think tank; Mediabistro.com, an organization that began as a gathering spot for media types and produces a Morning Newsfeed and a half-dozen blogs; I Want Media, which often focuses on the business of news and posts stories throughout the day; and CJRDaily, a site that grew out of *Columbia Journalism Review*'s efforts to monitor election coverage and is devoted to media criticism and analysis.

The expanding blogosphere — where media scrutiny tends to be more ideologically driven — is also becoming a force. Among other things, bloggers played a role in discrediting a *60 Minutes Wednesday* broadcast that questioned George W. Bush's military record. They also helped publicize remarks made by CNN executive Eason Jordan about the US military targeting journalists in Iraq, which led to his resignation.

But the master of the genre is Romenesko's home on the Web site of the Poynter Institute, a Florida-based center for journalism instruction. A former *Milwaukee Journal* police reporter, Romenesko collects reporting, gossip, commentary, letters, and memos from and about the journalism profession. By establishing a kind of town square where an event in one newsroom can be instantly relayed to a wide audience and then trigger a noisy clash over values and standards, Romenesko wields significant influence on media culture.

Take the case of ex-*Miami Herald* columnist Jim DeFede.

On July 27, DeFede was fired by the paper after he secretly taped a phone call with a public official under indictment right before that official killed himself.

News of DeFede's firing triggered an intense reaction that made its way to Romenesko, with DeFede and his supporters claiming his punishment was unduly harsh. Explanations from the *Herald* executives, a petition backing DeFede, and DeFede's call for an outside negotiator to resolve his status were all quickly posted. A professional arbitrator even wrote to Romenesko, saying the negotiator option was unrealistic. Everyone and his uncle had an opinion.

Finally, after Romenesko linked to a story from the weekly newspaper *New Times* airing the theory that Knight Ridder CEO Tony Ridder had ordered the DeFede firing, *Herald* executive editor Tom Fiedler fired back with a memo taking responsibility for the termination. The memo was posted on Romenesko, of course.

"Typically, I wouldn't have responded to an article in the *New Times*," Fiedler says. "Since it appeared in Romenesko . . . I felt it was important to respond."

Asked how he feels about having a personnel decision become a national controversy, Fiedler says, "I would not in any way advocate a cone of silence descending over me when I have to make these kinds of decisions." But he acknowledges that Romenesko "does become a factor in decision-making and the execution of a decision."

For his part, DeFede says the online debate "in some ways . . . helped me. . . . But it wasn't something I necessarily had control over. The power of Romenesko is, it's completely unbridled. There is no controlling it."

THE GATEKEEPER

In an e-mail message, Romenesko writes, "I'm happy to post links about journalism issues and invite discussions, but I'm not sure how much clout my site has . . . Jim DeFede hasn't

been rehired by the *Miami Herald* and newspaper owners have yet to lower their profit goals. I don't think news bosses go: 'I'd better do this because that's the consensus of Romenesko Letters contributors.'"

Romenesko is right to suggest that he is only the gatekeeper. And unlike other, more-freewheeling and unsavory online aggregators such as Matt Drudge, he plays by rules that don't conflict with the profession's standards. But what he does has turned out to be nothing short of revolutionary.

Steve Lovelady, managing editor of CJRDaily, sums up the point in an e-mail: "Romenesko has made all of print journalism, from the *East Nowhere Daily Trumpet* to the *New York Times*, a small village."

Journalists know that Romenesko is the best way to bring widespread attention to an issue. (An August 11 letter by *Village Voice* senior editor Robert Christgau saying he was "outraged, disgusted, and sick at heart" over a management attempt to cut writers' pay made it to the site.) Media reporters — including this one — are keenly aware that a story picked up by Romenesko can have national impact. Gone are the days when news executives could simply resolve problems behind closed doors. They assume the details of meetings and memos will be leaked — and act accordingly. And it doesn't seem too far-fetched to suggest that Romenesko-generated buzz has affected some key decisions.

"I don't think that Howell Raines and Gerald Boyd would have lost their jobs" before Romenesko, says Cleveland *Plain Dealer* editor Doug Clifton, discussing the 2003 resignations of the top two *New York Times* editors in the wake of the Jayson Blair scandal. Clifton's view of the Raines matter isn't shared by everyone, but his sense of Romenesko's impact pretty much is.

Former *Boston Globe* editor Matt Storin dealt with the scandal-scarred 1998 departures of columnists Mike Barnicle and Patricia Smith before the Romenesko era. "In a business [that in] so many ways has gotten tougher, it's one more irritant for an editor," he says. "Looking at it from afar now, seeing the number of editors who resign and the number of editors who are in trouble, it does have the feel of an industry turning on itself."

Washington Post media writer Howard Kurtz says that "to the extent that Jim Romenesko and others provide a megaphone [for what] were once very local media controversies, I think that's healthy . . . because it boosts the accountability of the business."

In mid August, Romenesko readers began seeing stories and letters arguing that a *Washington Post* decision to co-sponsor the Pentagon's September 11 "Freedom Walk" represented an unwise conflict of interest. By August 15, there was a clear sense of mounting internal opposition to the march. On that afternoon, Romenesko posted an online chat in which Kurtz expressed his concern, as well as a story reporting that the paper's union leadership was asking management to reconsider.

The very next day, the *Post* reported that it had pulled out of the event. "Clearly, there was sort of a building drumbeat," says Kurtz.

On July 6, Jeffrey Sykes, editor of the tiny *Reidsville* (North Carolina) *Review*, learned that two reporters had fabricated quotes for a man-on-the-street feature. After meeting with them, he says he decided to give them a second chance. Three weeks later, the Greensboro, North Carolina, *News & Record* wrote a story — and everything changed.

"THE THING JUST EXPLODED ON ROMENESKO," RECALLS ONE EDITOR. "ALL THAT DAY, PEOPLE WERE CALLING ME . . . EVERY TV STATION, RADIO STATION IN THE AREA, *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, THE AP."

"The thing just exploded on Romenesko," Sykes recalls. "All that day, people were calling me . . . every TV station, radio station in the area, *Editor & Publisher*, the AP."

"I was just in shock," he adds. "I felt I was going to be terminated, so I resigned." The reporters lost their jobs as well. On July 29, Sykes wrote a letter to Romenesko apologizing and saying that "I understand the factors that caused this story to spread across the globe."

In an interview, Sykes suggests the pressure of widespread attention turned what might have been a forgivable mistake into a bigger offense. Given "the atmosphere of self-immolation the business is in, I felt it was incumbent on me to say something [on Romenesko]," he adds. "A little bit of understanding needed to be brought to the situation."

The *Plain Dealer*'s Clifton was recently ensnared in a controversy that was greatly magnified by that media town square. On June 30, Clifton wrote a column stating that because of the pressure on journalists to reveal their sources, his paper was not running two important stories that came from leaks and could trigger an investigation.

The follow-up commentary and stories on Clifton's revelation played out on Romenesko. And in an NPR interview, the editor said he had received 200 letters on the subject calling him a "coward."

Clifton says the knowledge that internal matters will find their way online "alters the level of candor within your own newsroom. It amplifies controversies beyond their intrinsic merits, and the thing has a megaphone effect." Still, he concludes that the "light of day is always a better thing in the long run."

The *Miami Herald*'s Fiedler more or less agrees. Noting that his paper counts on the idea of state government being open and accountable, Fiedler understands why his decisions are subject to the same kind scrutiny in the Romenesko era.

"I've got to live by the sword," he says. "And I've got to die by the sword." ◉

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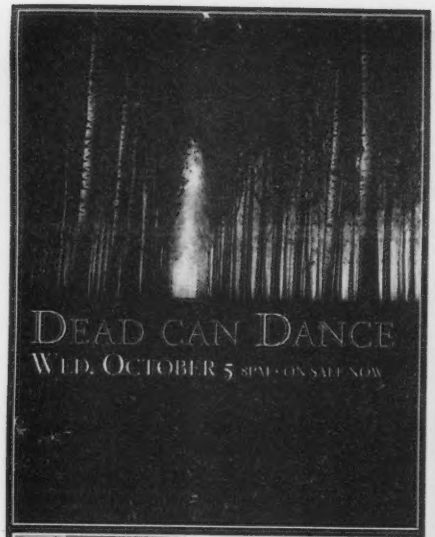

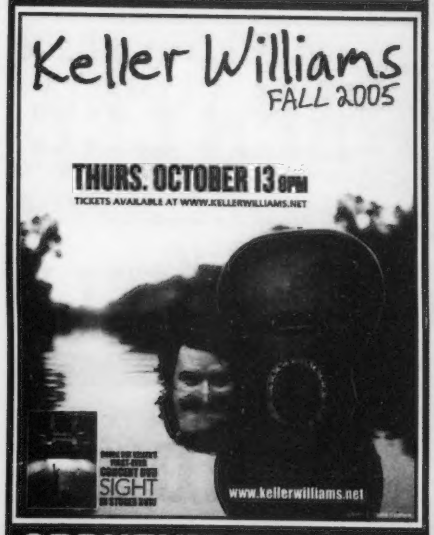

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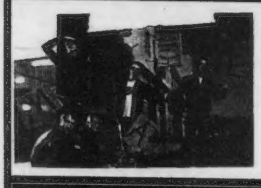

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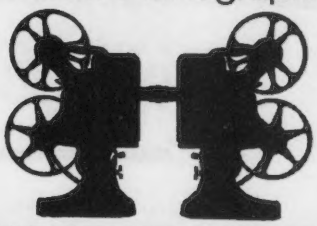

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DO YOU EAT POP-TARTS? PLAY *TONY HAWK*? WIPE WITH CHARMIN? WELL, GUESS WHAT? YOU'RE FUNDING THE FUNDERS OF THE RIGHT.

_BY DAVID S. BERNSTEIN

Few people spend much time considering which brand of almonds to buy. But progressives just might want to take that extra moment the next time they're in the snack aisle. That's because a Florida company called US Sugar Corp. owns Blue Diamond almonds, and US Sugar's founder and co-CEO, Donald G. Tobin, serves on the board of the Manhattan Institute, one of the country's leading conservative think tanks. US Sugar Corp. also gave $410,000 last year to a Florida group called Families for Conservative Values, which funneled the money to other groups opposing Democrats and progressive ballot measures in that state.

You're not going to bring Tobin, US Sugar Corp., or the Manhattan Institute to their knees by putting down that can of almonds. And you can't possibly hope to avoid buying anything that profits conservatives. But you should know where your money is going.

If you're a pro-choice woman in the Boston area, odds are you've heard that the founder and CEO of the fitness chain Curves, Gary Heavin, supports and funds pro-life causes. As a result, so many women have decided not to join the clubs that the Curves corporation has gone on the defensive, trying to show that Heavin's contributions are not as bad as people say.

But even if you have decided to withhold your money, when feasible, from those who campaign against progressive causes, it can be awfully hard to know which companies, and which products, to pick and choose through.

One way is through corporate political contributions. The Web site BuyBlue.com does a good job providing this information, rating companies along a spectrum — red if they give mostly to Republicans, blue if they give more to Democrats.

That's a good start. But it won't tell you what *individual* business leaders support and at what level. It won't tell you, for instance, that McCormick & Schmick restaurants' co-founder William P. McCormick is a Republican "Super Ranger," who raised $300,000 last year for the Republican National Committee (RNC). Or that when you buy a snack at the TD Banknorth Garden, the beneficiary is Boston Concessions Group founder and CEO Joseph J. O'Donnell, a major contributor and fundraiser — and White House sleepover guest — of George W. Bush.

The signs are often there, even if some of the specifics of the money flow are hard to trace. Take former Kellogg Company CEO Carlos Gutierrez. Gutierrez was a GOP fundraiser, and the Kellogg Foundation gave primarily to conservative causes. Then, this January, Gutierrez left the company — to become secretary of commerce for the Bush administration.

For years, parents bought Vicks VapoRub for their sick children, not knowing that their money would ultimately permit the company's founder to create the Smith Richardson Foundation, a major funding source for more right-wing causes than you can name. Bernard Marcus, founder of Home Depot, may well turn out to be the next Smith Richardson. He is one of the country's wealthiest men and has given hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Republican Party. The company's current chairman and CEO, Robert Nardelli, has personally given $45,000 (near the maximum for individuals) to the RNC since 2003.

Surely these people have every right to use their money as they please, and to participate in any organizations whose causes they believe in. And certainly they have every right to own or run businesses. But if you feel strongly about progressive causes, you might think twice the next time you pick up those almonds.

That's why the *Phoenix* has dug through campaign-finance reports, foundation-governance documents, and other materials that link corporate leaders to right-wing causes.

We found, for example, that Starz Network founder and chairman John Sie gave $50,000 to a group called Americans for Better Government, which used the money to encourage Colorado residents to support Bush for president and Pete Coors for senator. We found that the head of the company that makes Copenhagen and Skoal chewing tobacco gave heavily to the John Kerry–bashing Progress for America organization.

HIDDEN SUPPORT

Most contributions to pro-life, "traditional marriage," or other controversial causes go undetected. That's because most of those groups are so-called 501 nonprofit organizations, which do not disclose individual contributions. Anyone could give tens of thousands of dollars to Operation Rescue, for example, and nobody would ever know.

The ones who give in publicly traceable ways tend to be in industries that don't rely on customer purchases: investment firms, for instance, or large energy holding companies. But the *Phoenix* has found quite a few consumer-product or -service companies with leaders who fall into one of four categories of conservative supporters: Business Interests, Conservative Think Tanks, GOP Loyalists, and Right-Wing 527s.

Executives listed under Business Interests serve as directors or advisers to such groups as the US Chamber of Commerce — which spent millions opposing John Kerry in 2004 — the Business Roundtable, or similar groups. These entities lobby and advertise for business-friendly tax laws and environmental regulations. They also push for tort reform, to protect businesses against lawsuits brought by consumers — like the suit just won against Merck for its Vioxx product.

Those listed under Conservative Think Tanks serve on boards of organizations that work more broadly for right-wing causes. The Heritage Foundation, which promotes conservative policies and limited government (and which helped breed the neoconservatives who now drive US foreign policy), is probably the best known of these think tanks. But there are dozens of them, mostly funded by private right-wing foundations. The Pacific Research Institute opposes regulations on business, particularly environmental restrictions. The Reason Foundation, more libertarian than strictly conservative, also argues against government oversight of industry. The Ethics and Public Policy Center argues for using Christian moral values to guide public policy.

GOP Loyalists include many "Pioneers" who have raised $100,000 or more for George W. Bush, or who have earned "Super Ranger" status by raising $300,000 for the RNC. Others have given extensively to Republican candidates and committees. Some on the list will surprise you (Urban Outfitters! Activision!). Some have also given occasionally to Democrats. But to qualify for this list, they must have donated heavily to Republicans while making only token contributions to the other side.

Finally, the Right-Wing 527s category includes those bold enough to give huge sums to so-called 527 funds, which publicly report all contributions. The most popular among conservatives is Progress for America, which ran millions of dollars' worth of ads last year attacking John Kerry. This year, the group ran ads for Social Security privatization. GOPAC, which funds Republican congressional candidates, gets a good share of donations, as does the Republican Leadership Coalition, which is considered among the most right-wing of GOP groups. ⊙

To access links related to this story, read it online at BostonPhoenix.com. David S. Bernstein can be reached at dbernstein@phx.com. Katie Liesener contributed to this report.

The Right (Wing) Stuff

BUSINESS INTERESTS

The **BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE (BRT)** supports free trade, corporate-tax reduction, Social Security private accounts, reduction of corporate liability for lawsuits, and reforming education to meet industry needs.

The **US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (USCC)** agrees with those positions, but also fights against such things as mandatory labeling of genetically modified food, family and medical leave, OSHA ergonomics guidelines, and raising the minimum wage.

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CONSERVATIVE THINK TANKS

The **ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY CENTER (EPPC)** aims to "clarify and reinforce the bond between the Judeo-Christian moral tradition and the public debate over domestic and foreign policy issues." Top issues include defending Supreme Court nominee John Roberts; ending legalized abortion; dramatically scaling back Social Security; and opposing stem-cell research.

The **HERITAGE FOUNDATION** funds conservative research and publications. It advocates relaxing regulations on corporations; banning same-sex marriage by constitutional amendment; partially privatizing Social Security; switching from a progressive income tax to a flat tax or national sales tax; and promoting work, abstinence for the unmarried, and marriage as the antidotes to poverty. According to its Web site, an upcoming Heritage forum will show that "almost all" Iraq-war dissenters oppose capitalism, "many are Communists," and "at root, they are anti-American."

The **MANHATTAN INSTITUTE** believes in applying free-market capitalism to almost every social program, from Medicare to public education. The latest issue of its magazine, *City Journal*, includes articles blaming single motherhood for poverty among African-Americans; praising George W. Bush's Social Security reform plan; encouraging alumni to pressure colleges to teach only traditional Western civilization; and bemoaning the fact that "American music stars are overwhelmingly left-liberal."

The **PACIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PRI)** also calls for free-market solutions, particularly to environmental problems. It recently released the 2005 version of its "Environmental Index" report, which focuses primarily on debunking "eco-pessimists." The institute also advocates against taxes, living-wage ordinances, drug importation from Canada, and school vouchers.

REASON FOUNDATION, a libertarian group, is most familiar to Bostonians via the regular *Boston Globe* column by Cathy Young — a contributing editor to the foundation's magazine, *Reason* — in which she regularly criticizes liberals and feminists.

BASIC AMERICAN FOODS WILLIAM HUME CHAIRMAN, HERITAGE TRUSTEE | Potato Pearls mashed potatoes

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WENTE VINEYARDS WINES JEAN WENTE OWNER, PRI BOARD MEMBER

RIGHT-WING 527s

AMERICANS FOR BETTER GOVERNMENT (ABG) funded phone-bank outreach to encourage Colorado residents to support George W. Bush for president and Pete Coors for senator.

CLUB FOR GROWTH (CFG) a straightforward low-tax/limited-government political-action committee, added a 527 fund to its arsenal in the last campaign cycle, and raised a total of $22 million.

PROGRESS FOR AMERICA (PFA) spent millions helping Bush get re-elected, and now supports the Iraq war, Social Security reform, and Supreme Court nominee John Roberts.

The **REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION (RGA)** is currently running attack ads against Virginia Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tim Kaine. Those ads show pictures of John Kerry while calling Kaine "another liberal" who will raise taxes. Mitt Romney is vice-chairman of the RGA.

The **REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP COALITION (RLC)** advocates free-market solutions, and spends considerable effort and money persuading Hispanic Americans to vote Republican. Its political director, Richard Nadler, is a leader in the fight to teach creationism in Kansas schools.

AMERIQUEST ROLAND ARNALL CHAIRMAN, PFA DONOR

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GOP LOYALISTS

These are contributors to George W. Bush's presidential campaigns and/or the Republican National Committee.

A "Pioneer" personally raised at least $100,000 for Bush. A "Ranger" raised at least $200,000 for Bush. A "Super Ranger" is a Ranger who also raised at least $300,000 for the RNC. Others in this list have given extensively to GOP candidates and political-action committees, both personally and through their companies.

ACTIVISION GAMES ROBERT KOTICK CHAIRMAN/CEO, RANGER *Call of Duty* | *DOOM* | *Spider-Man* | *Tony Hawk*

APPLEBEE'S RESTAURANTS LLOYD HILL CHAIRMAN/CEO

BEST BUY STORES RICHARD SCHULZE CHAIRMAN

BOSTON CONCESSIONS GROUP JOSEPH J. O'DONNELL CEO, RANGER | Concession stands at TD Banknorth Garden, Wang Center

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JOHNSON & JOHNSON ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON IV HEIR, RANGER |Acuvue | Band-Aid | K-Y | Monistat | Motrin | Mylanta | O.B. | Pepsid | Reach | Splenda | Stayfree | Tylenol

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PEPSICO STEVEN REINEMUND CHAIRMAN Frito-Lay | Gatorade | Pepsi | Tropicana

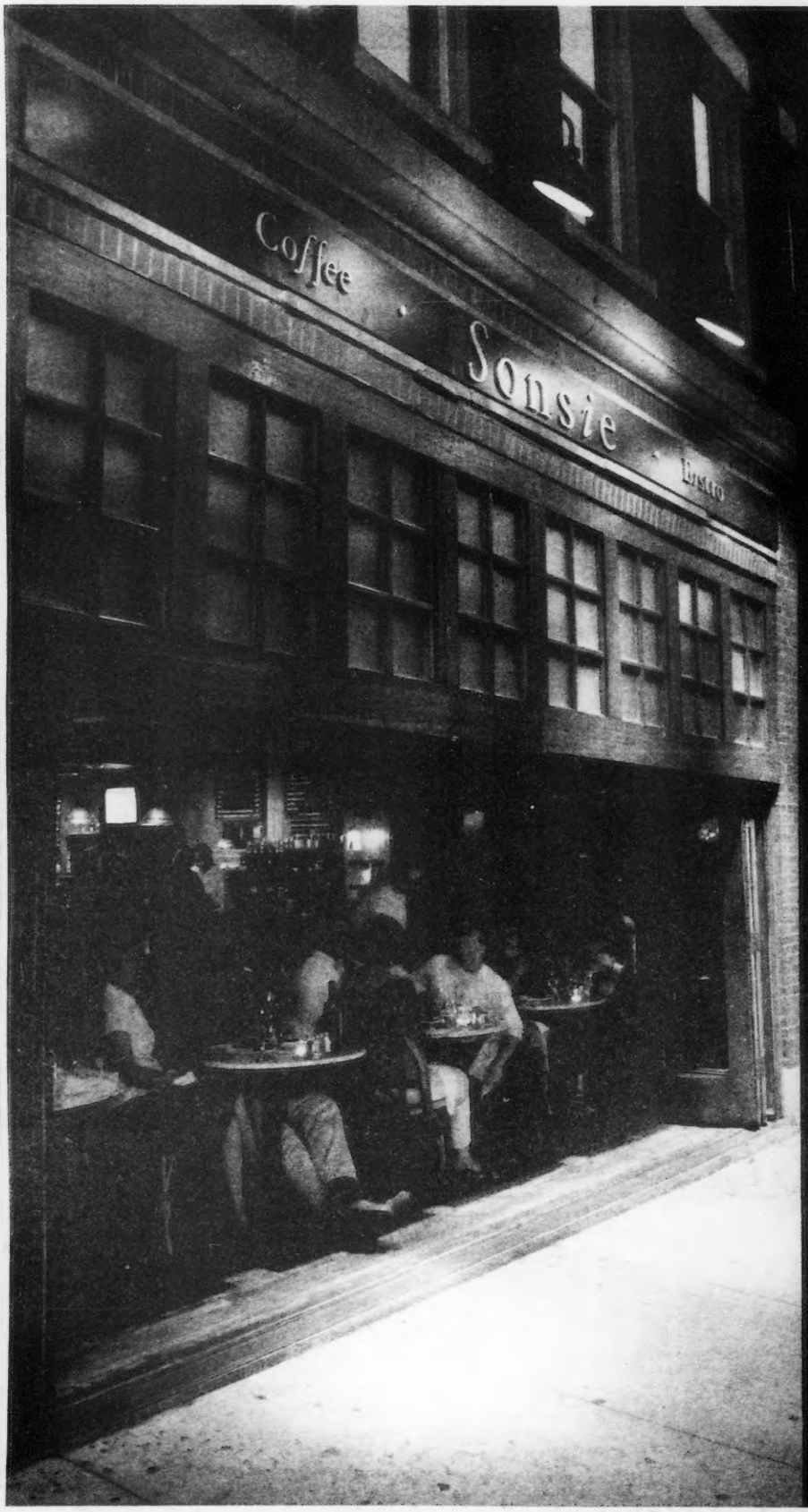
PIER 1 STORES MARVIN GIROUARD CHAIRMAN/CEO

RPM INTERNATIONAL THOMAS C. SULLIVAN CHAIRMAN Huffy bicycles | Tommy Armour golf clubs

TARGET STORES ROBERT ULRICH CHAIRMAN/CEO

URBAN OUTFITTERS RICHARD HAYNE CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT

THE WINE GROUP ARTHUR CIOCCA CHAIRMAN Franzia wine



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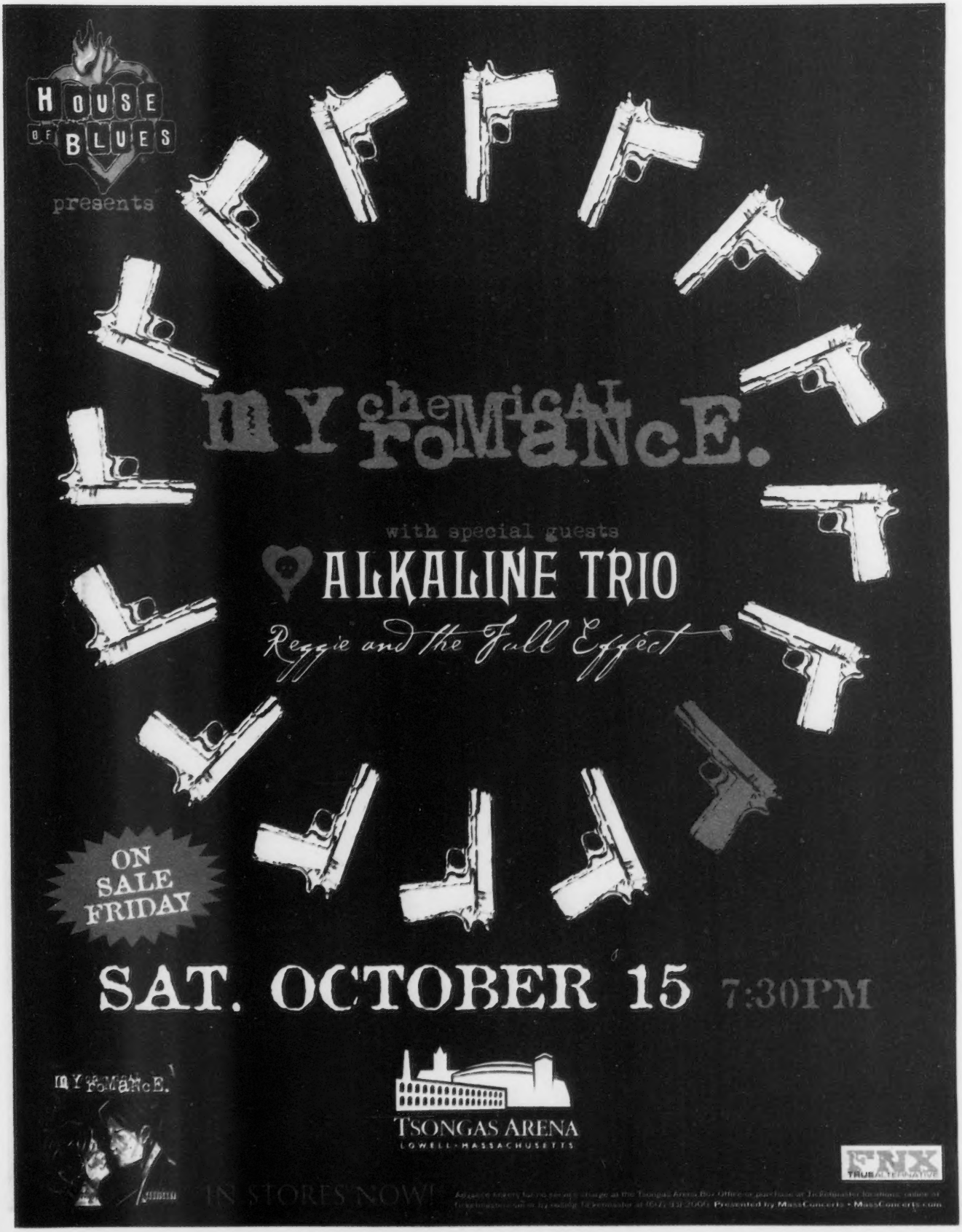
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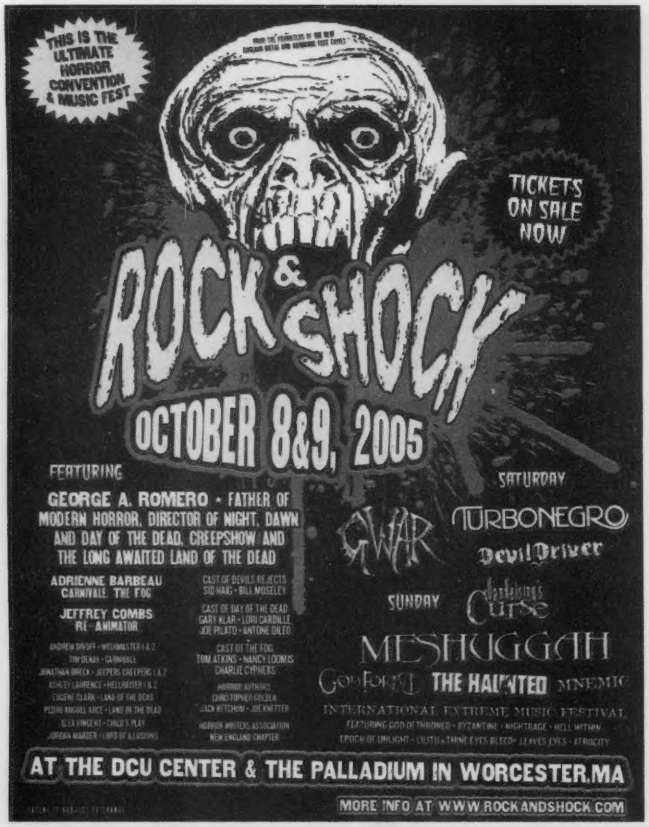
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CAST OF THE FOG TOM ATKINS • NANCY LOOMIS CHARLIE CYPHERS
HORROR AUTHORS CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN JACK KETCHUM • JOE HAUTTER
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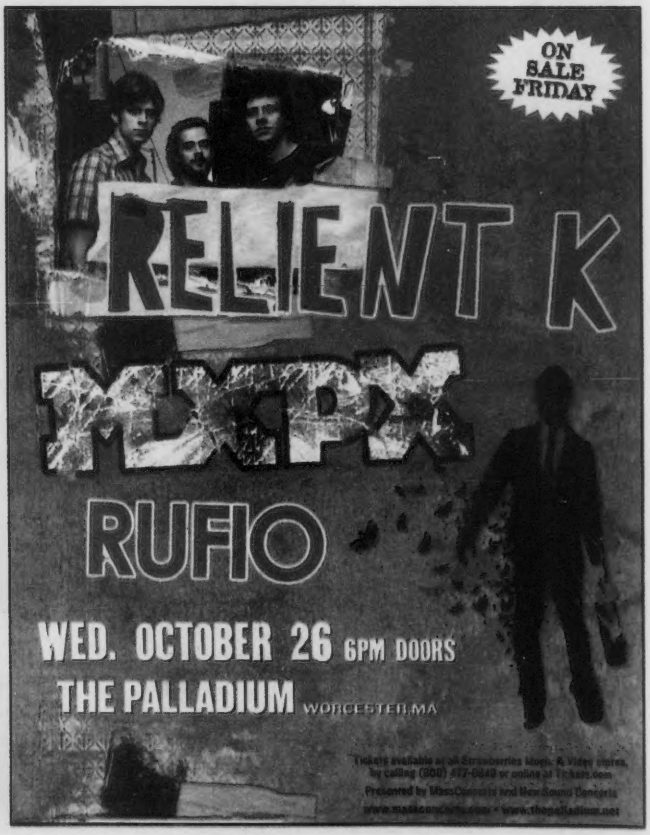
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ARTS+ ENTERTAINMENT

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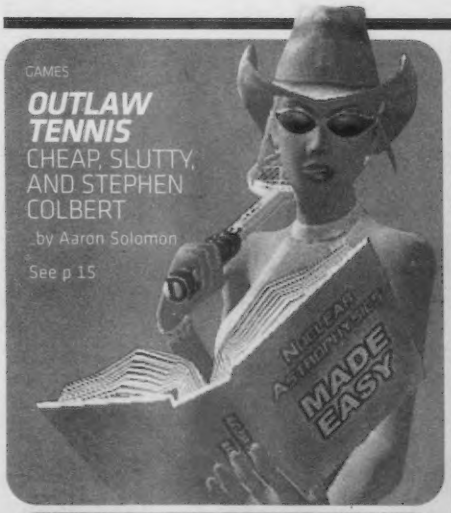
THE BROTHERS GRIMM

GILLIAM FANS ARE IN FOR A DISAPPOINTMENT

See **Trailers** | p 6



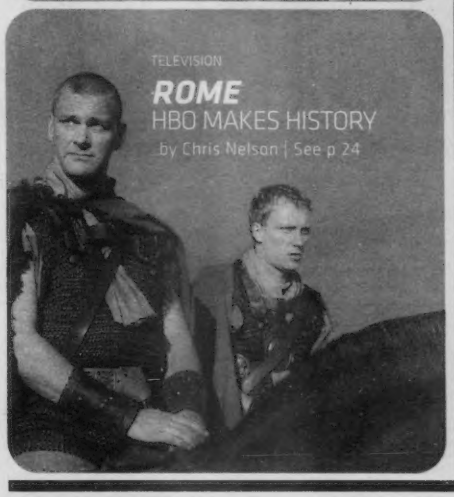
GAMES

OUTLAW TENNIS

CHEAP, SLUTTY, AND STEPHEN COLBERT

by Aaron Solomon

See p 15

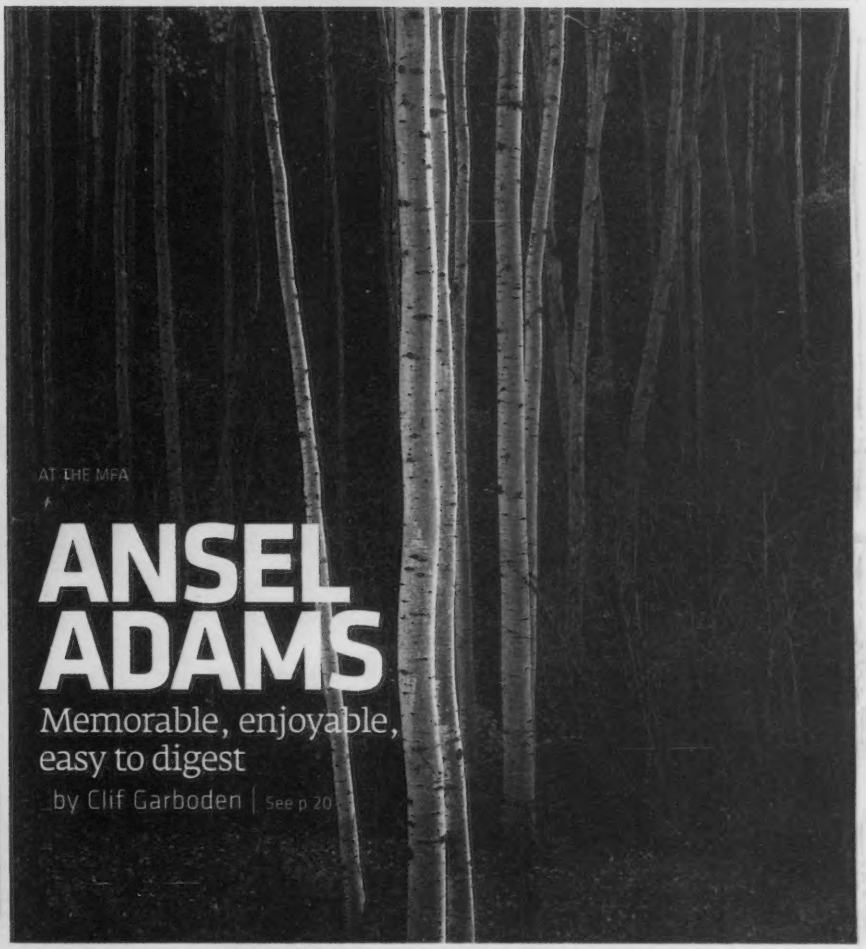


TELEVISION

ROME

HBO MAKES HISTORY

by Chris Nelson | See p 24



AT THE MFA

ANSEL ADAMS

Memorable, enjoyable, easy to digest

by Clif Garboden | See p 20

DIVAS

SOUVENIR, BUS STOP

Theater in the Berkshires | p 17

PLAY BY PLAY

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September 2 – 4

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8pm *Ozawa Hall*
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SEPTEMBER 3 SATURDAY

12pm *Theatre*
Skitch Henderson, Bucky Pizzarelli, Jay Leonhart

3pm *Ozawa Hall*
Marian McPartland
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with special guest **Madeleine Peyroux**

8pm *Shed*
Tony Bennett and the Count Basie Orchestra directed by Bill Hughes

SEPTEMBER 4 SUNDAY

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Sonny Rollins

8pm *Ozawa Hall*
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8 DAYS A WEEK

A ROUND-UP OF NOTABLE HAPPENINGS

_EDITED BY CARLY CARIOLI

THURSDAY 25

FILM
There's nothing like a free movie on a hot August evening. The Boston Public Library has Michael Ritchie's ***DOWNHILL RACER*** (1969), with Robert Redford, moody and alienated, presaging the end of the '60s and the American hero as he joins the US Olympic ski team and butts heads with coach Gene Hackman. BPL, Copley Square, Boston | 6 pm | free | 617.536.5400 x 4250. The South Boston Branch Library counters with ***SUDDEN FEAR*** (1952), in which Joan Crawford decrees that Jack Palance isn't enough of a leading man (what? maybe it's their clashing cheekbones . . .) to star in her play, so he decides to give her a lesson in love — or is it murder? — during their train ride from New York to San Francisco. SBBL, 646 East Broadway, South Boston | 6 pm | free | 617.268.0180.

FRIDAY 26

FILM
How to respond to evil? Do we ignore it like the title characters in ***WITNESSES*** (2003), Croatian director Vinko Bresan's 2003 thriller about a murder investigation during the civil warfare in 1992? It's at the MFA. Do we deny it like the title hypocrite in ***IL CONFORMISTA|THE CONFORMIST***, Bernardo Bertolucci's 1970 masterpiece about collaboration in Fascist Italy? It's getting a week at the Brattle Theatre. Do we ***BOMB THE SYSTEM***, as in Adam Bhala Lough's tribute to NYC graffiti art? It's at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. Do we dive below the surface to find it, as do the spelunkers in ***THE CAVE***, first-time director Bruce Hunt's horror film about underwater monsters starring Morris Chestnut and Piper Perabo? Do we sublimate it into fairy tales for children, as in ***THE BROTHERS GRIMM***, Terry Gilliam's fantasy adventure starring Matt Damon and Keith Ledger as the title sibs? Or do we let it remain ***UNDISCOVERED***, a romantic comedy about would-be entertainers seeking fame in LA starring Steven Strait and Carrie Fisher and directed by Meiert Avis (*Far from Home*)? If so, how will we ever face ***THE WORLD***, hot new Chinese director Jia Zhangke's love story about a dancer and a security guard in a Beijing theme park?

ART
Providing an earthbound link between experimental new media and Web-based art and the commercial gallery world, Allston's Axiom, Inc. is celebrating the closing of its group show **"MASS MEDIA,"** which has 18 artists working in video, 3-D animation, electronic installations, and more. Axiom is also opening a Web-only gallery called **BYTES** (www.axiomart.org/bytes) that will highlight several artists each month and then collect their work into quarterly bricks-and-mortar exhibits. Tonight's opening/closing reception includes work from both venues plus BYTES artist Eric McLaughlin's "algorhithmic drum and bass" and the ambient-music trio Phantom Limb at 16 Harvard Ave, Allston | 8 pm–2 am | 617.513.6375.

'KIRSTEN A. MALONE: RETROSPECTIVE'

THURSDAY 25 | A magnetic presence on Boston's art and music scene before her death last year at age 29, Malone exuded as much energy in her visual art as she did on stage with the Faux. A three-day exhibit collects her photography, video, sculpture, and performance art, including "Love Résumé Project," in which she explored on-line matchmaking and the universal search for love by posting a hysterically business-like accounting of her own dating history. It's at the Copley Society, 158 Newbury Street, Boston | August 25-27 | 617.536.5049.

CLASSICAL
It's the last BSO weekend of the summer at Tanglewood (next weekend the Jazz Festival moves in), and this evening **MAREK JANOWSKI** is on the podium for Mozart's *Serenata notturna* K.239, Haydn's Cello Concerto No. 2 in D, with **LYNN HARRELL**, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 2. That's at 297 West St, Lenox | 8:30 pm | $17-$85 | 617.266.1200.

SATURDAY 27

THEATER
Jenna Banns used to be a struggling actor; now she writes for *Desperate Housewives* and has a show opening in New York in November. Tonight Boston gets a sneak peek at ***HELP ME HELP MYSELF: THE NEW YORK GUIDE TO LOVE, FAME, FORTUNE AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE EVER DREAMT OF***, which at 70 minutes is probably shorter than its title. The comedy, a look at three young women "looking for (or trying to avoid) love, fortune, and inner peace" in the Big Apple, goes up at Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St, Boston | 8 pm | $15 | 212.591.2748.

INDIA
The more than 30 pieces of silver and 11 Kashmir shawls from 18th- and 19th-century India in **"SILVER AND SHAWLS: INDIA, EUROPE, AND THE COLONIAL ART MARKET"** illustrate the influence of British jewelers and goldsmiths on Indian metalwork, the reciprocal influence of Indian craftsmen on European design, and the evolution of the Kashmir shawl, which became popular in Europe during the period of colonial expansion in India. The show is up at the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 32 Quincy Street, Cambridge | August 27–January 29 | 617.495.9400.

Living in Mumbai (formerly known as Bombay and by any name one of the world's largest cities), Nalini Malani has a front-row seat for the human condition — "love, hate, fear, lust, pleasure, aggression, and pain," as summed up by one curator. Showcasing 40 of her works

Continued on p 4

FUTURE PERFECT

ART SPIEGELMAN
The comix legend gives a slide lecture on his *In the Shadow of No Towers*, a gripping, loose-jointed narrative that uses the September 11 attacks as a springboard for musings on the nature of cartooning, fatherhood, and what it means to be an American, at the Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem | September 20 | 7 pm | $30 | 866.745.1876.

INDIE ROCK AT THE MFA
After a spring-and-summer series that brought sellout shows by Ida, Superwolf, Magnolia Electric Company, and Four Tet to the Museum of Fine Arts, the *Phoenix* and the MFA have teamed up to bring you another round of mad *Pitchfork*-y art-rock stuff. Look for Black Dice on September 9, the Voltron-ized Notwist/Themselves superband 13 & God with local indietronic dudes Boy in Static on

Continued on p 4

8 DAYS A WEEK

FUTURE PERFECT

Continued from p 3

September 18, Fiery Furnaces on October 12, the Dirty Three on October 16, and the Mountain Goats on October 27. The MFA's at 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.369.3306.

Black Dice

CANDACE BUSHNELL

Roll your eyes if you must, just don't deny that it's been easier to get laid since this woman started publishing. The ranks of *Sex in the City* groupies are likely to expand with Bushnell's latest, *Lipstick Jungle*. She'll read from it September 15 at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, and the event is guaranteed to sell out in advance. That's at 290 Harvard St, Brookline | $2 through Brookline Booksmith | 617.566.6660.

ARTS CENTRAL 2005

Cambridge's hippest neighborhood throws itself a block party that looks like a bigger, better version of the Central Square World's Fair, with an open studios and one of those "Taste of (Insert City Here)" things thrown in for good measure. Musicians, dancers, theater companies, and comedians will share curb space with 100 local artists, eateries, and fashionistas while area businesses throw open their doors for tamale-making workshops, hair-cutting classes, behind-the-scenes tours, and more, September 17-18 at various locations indoors and out | www.centralsquarecambridge.com/artscentral.

Continued from p 3

and two of her video installations, **"EXPOSING THE SOURCE: THE PAINTINGS OF NALINI MALANI"** opens today and joins the permanent collection at the Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem | 866.745.1876.

Meanwhile, the Somerville Arts Council's summer-long "ArtsUnion" festival brings musicians and dance troupes to Union Square for **"BANGHRA BASH: THE ARTS OF INDIA."** DJ Fuad and videographer Chris Andrews team up for a Bollywood film mash-up, with live music from the group Falu, henna hand painting, spice mixing, and more outdoors on the plaza at Union Square, Somerville | 6-9 pm | 617.625.6600 x 2985.

DANCE

It's party night at Jacob's Pillow's final weekend of the 2005 season: after New Zealand's Black Grace and Japan's Project Fukurow perform this evening, both audiences can mingle with the performers at the **FESTIVAL FINALE BENEFIT DANCE PARTY**, whose proceeds will benefit the Pillow's artistic and educational programs. Jacob's Pillow is on George Carter Rd, Becket | Black Grace is in the Ted Shawn Theatre | 8 pm | performance plus party $100 | Project Fukurow is in the Doris Duke Studio Theatre | 8:15 pm | performance plus party $75 | 413.243.0745.

CLASSICAL

Or if shimmying with the dancers isn't your thing, you can just laze in the Berkshire grass and enjoy **FILM NIGHT AT TANGLEWOOD** with **JOHN WILLIAMS** and special guest **JOSH GROBAN**. Tanglewood's at 297 West St, Lenox | 8:30 pm | $18-$96 | 617.266.1200.

SUNDAY 28

CLASSICAL

The BSO summer at Tanglewood ends with — what else? — **BEETHOVEN'S NINTH SYMPHONY**, for which soprano Hillevi Martinpelto, mezzo-soprano Susan Platts, tenor Kurt Streit, and bass Alastair Miles will join **MAREK JANOWSKI**. Tanglewood is at 297 West St, Lenox | 2:30 pm | $18-$96 | 617.266.1200.

MONDAY 29

FILM

The good news is that the kind of military coup outlined in ***SEVEN DAYS IN MAY*** will probably never happen. The bad news is that it doesn't need to: the assholes are in charge already. John Frankenheimer's 1964 paranoid political thriller boasts an astounding cast headed by Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Fredric March, and Ava Gardner, and you can see it at the Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston | 6 pm | free | 617.536.5400 x 4250.

We should have realized that the war against drugs was a lost cause back in 1971 when ***THE FRENCH CONNECTION*** came out. William Friedkin set the standard for cop movies and car chases and Gene Hackman for hard-boiled detectives in this gritty, pulse-pounding, often hilarious thriller about the NYPD's attempt to quash the Marseille heroin trade. Sporting Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Actor (Hackman), among others, it screens at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St, Brookline | 7:30 pm | 617.734.2500.

TUESDAY 30

FILM

Now if we'd encouraged Kevin Spacey to pursue the suspense genre after his 1996 directorial debut, ***ALBINO ALLIGATOR***, maybe he wouldn't have gone on to do that Bobby Darin thing. Three petty crooks take hostages in the title lounge and things get hairy. The top-notch cast includes Matt Dillon, Faye Dunaway, Gary Sinise, and Viggo Mortensen, and you can see them all at the Independent Bar & Restaurant, 75 Union Square, Somerville | 8 pm | free | 617.440.6022.

WEDNESDAY 31

ART

Bill Koch gets around. He owns nudes by Dalí, Matisse, Modigliani, and Picasso. He's got poppies by Monet, a fruit basket by Cézanne, and a framed "$500 REWARD" poster for Billy the Kid. And the MFA was so keen to exhibit a chunk of his stuff that it's letting him park his yachts — including *America*³, winner of the 1992 America's Cup — in its front yard during the run of **"THINGS I LOVE: THE MANY COLLECTIONS OF WILLIAM I. KOCH"** | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | through November 13 | 617.267.9300.

FILM

Sure, people are starving by the thousands in Africa, but what's the latest on Natalee Holloway? Making the case that movies are more serious than the so-called news is ***THE CONSTANT GARDENER***, an adaptation of the John le Carré novel about an English diplomat in Kenya whose activist wife is murdered. Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz star, hot-shot Brazilian filmmaker Fernando Meirelles (*Cidade de Deus|City of God*) directs, and it opens today at the Kendall Square Cinema and perhaps other theaters to be announced.

THEATER

Watch an American nuclear family drink and drug themselves under the table as Gloucester Stage Company opens a revival of Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer-winning ***LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT*** this evening. Elliot Norton Award winner Eric C. Engel directs the formidable Paul O'Brien and Sandra Shipley in the autobiographical work through September 18 at Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St, Gloucester | $30; $25 for seniors and students | 978.281.4433.

THURSDAY 31

FILM

Before Pearl Harbor, Hollywood for the most part ignored Adolf Hitler. An exception is Frank Borzage's ***THE MORTAL STORM*** (1940), an adaptation of the Phyllis Bottome novel about a rural German family's response to Nazism. Will it all blow over? Is true love enough? In hindsight, I think we know the answers. James Stewart, Margaret Sullavan, Robert Young, and an even younger Robert Stack star, and you can catch it at the South Boston Branch Library, 646 East Broadway, South Boston | 6 pm | free | 617.268.0180.

Jeanne Moreau

'TOO HUMAN: THE FILMS OF LOUIS MALLE'

THURSDAY 1 | The MFA/HFA retrospective of the late French master's work kicks off with *Ascenseur pour l'échafaud|Elevator to the Gallows* (1958), a moody neo-noir set in Paris on the night of two criss-crossed murders. With Miles Davis's dazzling improvised score, ambient b&w cinematography from the great Henri Decaë, and shot after shot of Jeanne Moreau's chameleonic face, it's at the MFA, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | September 1 @ 6 pm + September 4 @ 1 pm | 617.369.3306.

Film

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Global vision

Jia Zhangke's *The World*

_BY CHRIS FUJIWARA

THE WORLD
WRITTEN + DIRECTED BY JIA ZHANGKE | WITH ZHAO TAO + ALLA SHCHERBAKOVA + CHEN TAISHEN + JING JUE | A ZEITGEIST FILMS RELEASE | MANDARIN + SHANXI | 139 MINUTES

KENDALL SQUARE

The World is so much more intelligent and exciting than it could have been. In choosing to make a film about people who work at the World Park — a theme park outside Beijing that boasts simulacra of such landmarks as the Lower Manhattan skyline, the Eiffel Tower, and the Great Pyramid of Egypt — director Jia Zhangke runs some risks. Since the World Park comments on itself by its mere existence, further commentary is threatened with redundancy. Also, the dominant commercial cinema has been so glib in trading in the postmodernism of placelessness, from *Blade Runner* to Baz Luhrmann to *Batman Returns*, that for an art filmmaker outside the Hollywood orbit to enter this market is to risk impotent cuteness.

Three options are immediately obvious, all equally banal. You could celebrate, in the smirking Broadway-for-the-multiplex manner of *Chicago* or *Moulin Rouge*, the glitzy surfaces of the simulated world while mocking the suckers whom these surfaces deceive. You could appeal to a despairing humanism by showing individual lives crushed under the heel of globalization. Or you could appease a more sentimental humanism by showing how in spite of everything, people adapt, muddle through, and make the globalized world their home.

The World does all three, but in reverse. The film doesn't neutralize (how could it?) a smug, derisive response to the falseness of the theme park and to the modest pride its workers take in being close to the world's monuments. But Jia's visual design is a deterrent to easy ironizing. He photographs the simulacra as part of the distant background, as seen from the trains that shuttle his characters around or behind their backs as they talk to each other on half-deserted platforms. It's a world that's close but far, real but empty, stable but uncomfortable. Jia provides a long-shot view of individuals placed in, and against, the vast spaces of history — the same view (now expanded by CinemaScope) with which he built a previous masterpiece, 2000's *Platform*.

Like the protagonists of that film and of its excellent follow-up, 2002's *Unknown Pleasures*, some of the main characters of *The World* are performers. Jia's view of these people is close to that of Max Ophuls in *Lola Montes* or Douglas Sirk in *Imitation of Life*: they're trapped rather than liberated by the stage machines to which they lend their bodies but not their souls. They're glorified service personnel in kitschy uniforms, not expressive artists. Yet it's through performance — specifically the gift of a song — that two characters of *The World* communicate with each other: Tao (Zhao Tao), a young dancer from Northern China, and Anna (Alla Shcherbakova), a Russian dancer for whom employment at the theme park turns out to be a stop on the way to prostitution. In the song of Ulan Bator that Anna teaches Tao, *The World* finds the possibility of an authentic culture. The cell-phone text messages through which the characters keep in touch point to a similar possibility, and Jia privileges the world-apart nature of these communications by accompanying them with short animations. Yet he also sees the cell phone as a surveillance device, in the subplot about a jealous man who gets enraged when he can't keep tabs on his dancer girlfriend.

JIA'S VISUAL DESIGN is a deterrent to easy ironizing.

Confronting globalization and the technologies of instantaneity, *The World* creates an experience that's epic and unresolved, in which there's wholeness but no contrived balance or symmetry, and in which, behind the characters' personal struggles, distances of time, space, and scale loom, neither affirming nor annihilating, as challenges and reference points. It's a region of experience for which Asian cinema has long had a special affinity, and with *Platform*, *Unknown Pleasures*, and now *The World*, Jia has established himself as one of this area's most creative explorers.

Hot dates

Wong on *2046*; Bertolucci on *The Conformist*

_BY GERALD PEARY

FILM CULTURE

Those watching Wong Kar-wai's 2046 may be confused. Is this moustached, womanizing, pulp-writing Chow Mo-wan the same clean-faced, platonic, non-literary Chow Mo-wan we saw in Wong's 2000 film In the Mood for Love? Both Mo-wans are enacted by the wonderful Tony Leung. "The characters should be totally different," Wong insisted at a press conference following 2046's world premiere at Cannes 2004. Then he contradicted himself. "But as I tried to change things, they kept reminding me of before. Like my characters, the more you try to forget, the more you remember. So you should just live with it. That's the message of the film."

"We started with Bukowski and ended with Clark Gable," Wong joked, describing his reconfigured hero. "I get all these questions about the moustache. But you see, that's not my problem."

Does the new Mo-wan err by rebuffing a woman who truly loves him? "He's not making just one mistake," Wong replied. "He makes lots of mistakes. He rejects a woman, but he's rejected by a woman. There are so many chances we miss in life, and all we have left are the memories."

Wong is notorious for altering his movies as he shoots, frustrating his performers, and tinkering with the editing until the last possible moment. Nobody was surprised that *2046* arrived at Cannes several days late, necessitating an end-of-the-festival Competition screening. "This film is very complicated," the director explained. "We had to use three different companies — France, Hong Kong, China — and we had to reshoot images to match backgrounds. We also had problems at the finish with special effects. We should say that this version is complete, the final editing, and we put an end to the project. We had to give up some things. I'm very glad there'll be a DVD, so someday we'll get all the performances.

"The joke was, 'When will the film be finished?' 'In 2046.' That joke is over. I'm so glad."

LAST TANGO? Dominique Sanda dips Stefania Sandrelli.

Alberto Moravia's novel *Il conformista* ("The Conformist") came out in Italy in 1951, after the war, and it's an unforgiving attack on his country's embrace of fascism. You'd have to search hard to find a creepier protagonist than Moravia's Marcello, who as a boy murders a potential pederast in cold blood (or thinks he did) and then as a gloomy adult works for Mussolini's secret police, helping to get his partisan former professor and the professor's wife assassinated by a fascist hit squad.

You won't see Marcello in the street stomping recalcitrants with his boots — his fascism takes the form of bourgeois fitting in, of being as "normal" as possible, with a wife and child. Moravia was repelled by his protagonist; on the last page, in the novel's most contrived moment, he has Marcello killed off by Allied planes. In making his 1970 film version, which is getting a week at the Brattle in a new 35mm print, Bernardo Bertolucci has explained how he switched Moravia's tale of "fate" — there's no deus ex machina airplane — to a Freudian film of the unconscious.

Whose unconscious? At the time, the future director of *The Last Tango in Paris* was into psychoanalysis, and he discovered, he says in interviews, that he was more aggressive than he thought. Aggressive against whom? His kindly dad, who like the murder victim in the story was an anti-fascist professor during the war. *Il conformista* is a death-of-the-father movie, with rightist Marcello (Jean-Louis Trintignant) acting out the Oedipal wishes of leftist Bernardo. It's also one of the most sumptuously shot works in cinema, thanks to DP Vittorio Storaro. And Dominique Sanda as the professor's bisexual wife (check out her tango with Stefania Sandrelli) delivers one of the most torrid performances in movies — *Casablanca*'s Ilsa as toughened up by Marlene Dietrich.

COMPLIMENTARY MOVIE PASSES

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Invite you and a guest to a special advance screening on Tuesday, August 30th at 7pm

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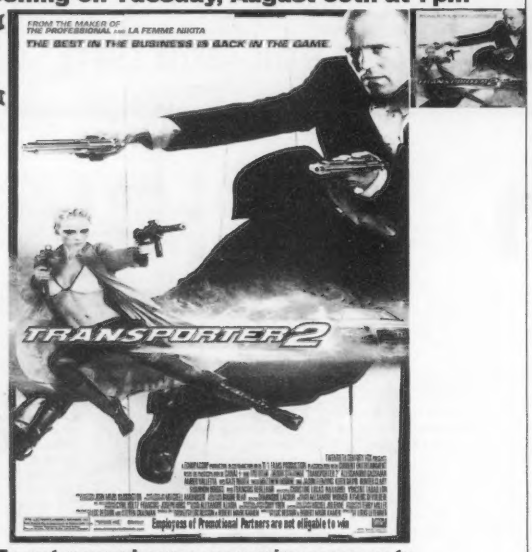

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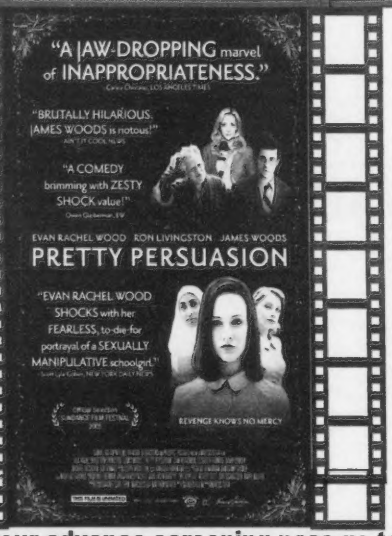
THE BOSTON PHOENIX



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OPENS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

This film is Not Rated. Supplies limited. One pass per person. No purchase necessary.

Film

TRAILERS

_Nina MacLaughlin

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BOMB THE SYSTEM

93 MINUTES | KENDALL SQUARE

Adam Bhala Lough's frenetic ode to graffiti and New York City storms along in a primary-colored 2 am haze of spray paint and anti-authority fervor. Set in alleyways, rooftops, overpasses, and empty lots, the film follows rising-star Blest (Mark Webber, convincing in his angst and restlessness) as he and his crew — brothers Justin (Gano Grills) and Kevin (Jade Yorker) — bomb blank walls, tag the city, nick spray cans, and run from the cops. Blest faces dueling pressures from art school on the West Coast and his political-activist girlfriend (Jaclyn DeSantis). And one cop in particular, odious if overdone boozing cokehead Bobby Cox (Al Sapienza), wants to bust them in the act. With a moody synth soundtrack amplifying the fumy, fuming life, Lough captures the compulsion and the ego of these artists, but the longer rants about the art have a scripted, fresh-out-of-film-school quality, particularly since the acts speak for themselves.

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THE CONSTANT GARDENER

129 MINUTES | KENDALL SQUARE [OPENS AUGUST 31]

John le Carré narrates his novel *The Constant Gardener* partly from the point of view of a craven and culpable character; Fernando Meirelles does his adaptation from the point of view of a showoff stylist. The former injects irony; the latter reminds us that this director made the overrated *Cidade de Deus/City of God*. Which is a shame, since the overwrought style obscures some affecting performances. For Ralph Fiennes's Justin Quayle, the gardener of the title and a British diplomat in Kenya, decency and duty have declined into complacency, but his young wife, Tessa (Rachel Weisz), acts as his conscience. She's been probing into the dealings of pharmaceutical corporations in Africa, with the result that as the film opens, she's already been murdered. Convulsed by grief and guilt, Quayle seeks justice and takes solace in slick flashbacks. The movie manipulates you into feeling guilty as well; take the $10 you'd spend for a ticket and send it instead to Oxfam.

_Peter Keough

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WITNESSES

SERBO-CROATIAN| 90 MINUTES | MFA: AUGUST 26-28 + 31 + SEPTEMBER 3

Vinko Bresan's 2003 film begins with a never-ending tracking shot incorporating all sorts of passing characters and concluding in murder, a cool homage to the similarly elongated "noir" opening shot of Orson Welles's *Touch of Evil*. After that, this Croatian feature turns flat and turgid, even as the filmmaker tries to liven things by telling and retelling his didactic story from different points of view. It's 1992 in a small Croatian town, and the murdered guy is a Serb killed by a trio of anarchic Croat soldiers avenging the death on the battlefield of the father of one of the three. Should the local police arrest the assassins or, because this is war, allow them to return to the battlefield? Everyone in this leaden film walks around in pain, agonizing about the moral issues. But credit Bresan with going beyond "blame the Serbs" to ask questions about Croatian responsibility in Yugoslavia's ethnic wars.

Monica Bellucci and Heath Ledger

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THE BROTHERS GRIMM

119 MINUTES | BOSTON COMMON + FENWAY + HARVARD SQUARE + CIRCLE + SUBURBS

If you know the Quixotic journey the visionary behind *Brazil* embarks upon to produce a film, it's painful to realize that Terry Gilliam gave his all to this project. Given its checklist of bullet points culled from the fairy tales of Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm, you can understand what drew him to the material, but Ehren Kruger's plodding screenplay provides him with little to hang his expectedly gorgeous visuals on. Borrowing a page from *Scooby-Doo*, Will (Matt Damon (uncharacteristically *acting*) and Jake (Heath Ledger) traverse "French-occupied Germany," exorcising demons from the terrified locals. Correctly sensing a scam, the quiche-loving General Delatombe (Jonathan Pryce, energizing his too few scenes) forces them to confront the seductive Mirror Queen (Monica Bellucci), a true horror, or face death. Lena Headey adds fire as a love interest, but after a seven-year wait, Gilliam fans are in for *Grimm* disappointment.

_Brett Michel

Film

Unless otherwise noted, all film listings this week are for Friday August 26 through Thursday September 1. Times often change with little notice, so please call the theater before heading out. For complete film-schedule information, check the *Boston Phoenix* Web site at www.bostonphoenix.com.

BOSTON

BOSTON COMMON
175 Tremont St | 617.423.3499
THE BROTHERS GRIMM | noon, 3, 6, 9 | Fri-Sun: 11 am, 1, 2, 4, 5, 7:05, 8, 10, 11 | Fri-Sat: 11:45 | Mon-Thurs: 12:30, 1:15, 3:40, 4:45, 6:45, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30
THE CAVE | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am, 2:15, 5:15, 8:15 | Fri-Sat: 10:50 | Sun: 10:35 | Mon-Thurs: 1:05, 4:20, 7:05, 9:55
UNDISCOVERED | Fri-Sun: 11:15 am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50 | Fri-Sat: midnight | Mon-Thurs: 1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10
THE ARISTOCRATS | Fri-Sun: 11:40 am, 2:05, 4:30, 6:10, 8:35, 11:10 | Mon-Thurs: 2, 5, 8:05, 10:40
BROKEN FLOWERS | 2:45, 4:30, 8:10 | Fri-Sun: 11:45 am | Fri-Sat: 11:15 | Mon-Thurs: 12:05, 10:35
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 12:50, 3:50 | Fri-Sun: 6:50 | Mon-Thurs: 6:55
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 10:15 | Fri-Sat: 12:05 am
THE DUKES OF HAZZARD | Fri-Sun: 8:50 | Fri-Sat: 11:30 | Mon-Thurs: 10:15
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 12:25, 3:35, 6:40, 7:30, 9:30 | Fri-Sun: 11:10 am, 1:50, 4:40, 10:20 | Fri-Sat: midnight | Mon-Thurs: 1:25, 4:10, 10:25
FANTASTIC FOUR | 3:10, 7:25 | Fri-Sat: 11:40
FOUR BROTHERS | 3:10, 9:15 | Fri-Sun: 11:05 am, 12:30, 1:45, 5:20, 6:20, 7:55, 10:30 | Fri-Sat: midnight | Mon-Thurs: 12:25, 1:50, 5:45, 6:15, 8:20, 10:40
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:40, 10:05 | Fri-Sat: 11:55
RED EYE | 12:35, 2:55, 5:35, 10:35
THE SKELETON KEY | 11:55 am, 2:35, 5:05 | Fri-Sun: 8:25 | Fri-Sat: 11:25 | Sun-Thurs: 10:45 | Mon-Thurs: 8:35
SUPERCROSS | Fri-Sun: 11 am | Mon-Thurs: 12:10
VALIANT | Fri-Sun: 10:55 am, 1:15, 4:25, 7 | Mon-Thurs: 12:20, 2:20, 4:35, 7
WAR OF THE WORLDS | 1, 5:15, 9:30
WEDDING CRASHERS | 3:20, 6:30, 9:40 | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am, 2:20, 5:45, 8:45 | Fri-Sat: 11:40 | Mon-Thurs: 12:40, 4, 7:25, 10:20

FENWAY
201 Brookline Ave | 617.424.6266
THE BROTHERS GRIMM | 2, 5, 8, 10:50
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 1:45, 4:40, 7:45
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40 | Fri-Sat: 11:50
THE DUKES OF HAZZARD | 10:30
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 1:15, 4, 7:10, 10
FOUR BROTHERS | 1:10, 3:50, 7, 9:40 | Fri-Sat: 12:10 am
HUSTLE & FLOW | 9:15 | Fri-Sat: midnight
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 1:40, 4:10, 6:30, 8:30
MUST LOVE DOGS | 5:15, 7:50, 10:20
RED EYE | 2, 4:20, 7:15, 9:30 | Fri-Sat: midnight
THE SKELETON KEY | 1:15, 3:45, 7:20, 10:10
SUPERCROSS | 1:10, 3:15
VALIANT | 1, 3, 5, 7
WEDDING CRASHERS | 2:15, 5:20, 8:15, 11:15

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston | 617.723.2500 | $7.50, $5.50 for ages 3-11 and seniors, Tues-Wed 7 pm or later, $5, $3 for ages 3-11 and seniors
AMAZING JOURNEYS
FORCES OF NATURE
MYSTERY OF THE NILE
ROAR: THE LIONS OF THE KALAHARI

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theatre, Central Wharf, Boston | 866.815.IMAX | $12, $10 for ages 3-11 and seniors
ALIENS OF THE DEEP
GALÁPAGOS
INTO THE DEEP
OCEAN WONDERLAND
POLAR EXPRESS
VOLCANOES OF THE DEEP SEA

BROOKLINE

CHESTNUT HILL
Rte 9 and Hammond St | 617.277.2500
THE CAVE | noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 12:45, 3:45, 7:05, 9:45
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 12:30, 3, 5:15, 9:55
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 12:15, 2:45, 4:45, 7, 9:15
SUPERCROSS | 7:45
VALIANT | 1:30, 3:30, 5:25, 7:15, 9:30

CIRCLE
Cleveland Circle | 617.566.4040
Please call for times
THE BROTHERS GRIMM
UNDISCOVERED
THE 40-YEAR-OLD-VIRGIN
FOUR BROTHERS
MUST LOVE DOGS
RED EYE
THE SKELETON KEY
WEDDING CRASHERS

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St | 617.734.2500
BROKEN FLOWERS | 5:10, 10 | Fri-Tues, Thurs: 2:45 | Fri-Sun, Tues-Thurs: 7:40 | Sat-Sun: 12:15 | Mon: 7:20 | Wed: 9
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 3, 5 | Fri-Sun, Wed-Thurs: 7 | Fri-Sun, Tues-Thurs: 9 | Sat-Sun: 1 | Mon: 9:30
ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW | 9:30
MURDERBALL | 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 | Sat-Sun: 1:30
SHAFT | Fri-Sat: midnight
SCUL: OPERATION SUPERPOSI | Fri: midnight
FRENCH CONNECTION | Mon: 7:30
THE BEST OF OPEN SCREEN | Tues: 7:30

CAMBRIDGE

BRATTLE
40 Brattle St, Harvard Square | 617.876.6837
IL CONFORMISTA|THE CONFORMIST | 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30

FRESH POND
168 Alewife Brook Parkway | 617.661.2900
THE CAVE | 4:30, 7, 9:30 | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am, 1:50 | Mon-Thurs: noon, 2:10
UNDISCOVERED | 2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45 | Fri-Sun: noon | Mon-Thurs: 12:05
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 1:15, 4, 6:30, 9:15
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 2:10, 4:15, 6:16, 8:15 | Fri-Sun: 10:20 | Mon-Thurs: 10:10
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | Fri-Sun: 11:50 am, 2:20, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30 | Mon-Thurs: noon, 2:25, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55
FOUR BROTHERS | 1, 3:25, 6, 9
RED EYE | 12:45, 2:45, 4:50, 6:45, 8:40 | Fri-Sun: 10:50
THE SKELETON KEY | 12:30, 3, 5:30 | Fri-Sun: 8, 10:40 | Mon-Thurs: 7:55, 10:15
SUPERCROSS | 12:15
VALIANT | 1:35, 3:45, 5:45, 8, 10 | Fri-Sun: 11:40 am
WEDDING CRASHERS | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am, 2, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10 | Mon-Thurs: 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

HARVARD SQUARE
10 Church St | 617.864.4580
THE BROTHERS GRIMM | 12:30, 1:30, 3:15, 4:15, 6, 7, 9, 10 | Fri-Sat: 11:55
ASYLUM | 12:45, 6:15
BROKEN FLOWERS | 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:15, 10:10 | Fri-Sat: 11:55
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 | Fri-Sat: midnight
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | Sat: midnight

KENDALL SQUARE
1 Kendall Square | 617.499.1996
BOMB THE SYSTEM | Fri-Tues:2:50, 5, 7:40, 10:05 | Sat-Sun: 12:30
THE WORLD | Fri, Mon-Tues: 2:10, 5:10, 8:20 | Sat-Sun: 1:10, 4:10, 7, 9:55
THE ARISTOCRATS | Fri-Tues: 2:15, 3, 4:30, 5:15 7:10, 8, 9:20, 10:10 | Sat-Sun: noon, 12:45
DE BATTRE MON CŒUR S'EST ARRÊTÉ|THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED | Fri-Tues: 2:40, 5:10, 7:35, 10 | Sat-Sun: 12:10
GRIZZLY MAN | Fri-Tues: 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:45 | Sat-Sun: 12:05
JUNEBUG | Fri-Tues: 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50 | Sat-Sun: 12:05
ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW | Fri-Tues: 2:35, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35 | Sat-Sun: 12:15
2046 | Fri, Mon-Tues: 2:05, 5:05, 8:05 | Sat-Sun: 1, 4, 7:05, 9:40

SUBURBS

ARLINGTON
Capitol, 204 Mass Ave | 781.648.4340
BATMAN BEGINS | 7:05, 9:45
CRASH | 10:05
MADAGASCAR | 11:20 am, 1:20, 3:20
MAD HOT BALLROOM | 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
MUST LOVE DOGS | 11:05 am, 1:10, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:40
THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS | 11:30 am, 2, 4:30
SKY HIGH | 11:10 am, 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:40
STAR WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH | 12:10, 4:10, 7, 9:50
WAR OF THE WORLDS | noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10

BEVERLY
Cabot Street Cinema, 286 Cabot St | 978.927.3677
CINDERELLA MAN | Fri-Mon: 5 | Fri-Sat, Mon: 8 | Sat-Sun: 2
THE BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY | Tues-Thurs: 5:15, 8 | Wed: 2

BRAINTREE
AMC X, South Shore Plaza | 781.848.1070
THE BROTHERS GRIMM | 1, 3:45, 7:15, 10
THE CAVE | 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 12:40, 7:10
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 8:15, 10:20
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 1:40, 5, 7:45, 10:25
FOUR BROTHERS | 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:30
MUST LOVE DOGS | 3:30, 9:50
RED EYE | 1:50, 4, 7:30, 9:40
THE SKELETON KEY | 2, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
SUPERCROSS | 12:50, 3:15, 5:20
WEDDING CRASHERS | 1:30, 4:30, 7:50, 10:30

DEDHAM
Showcase 10, 950 Providence St | 781.326.4955
Please call for times
THE BROTHERS GRIMM
THE CAVE
UNDISCOVERED
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
FOUR BROTHERS
MADAGASCAR
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS
MUST LOVE DOGS
RED EYE
THE SKELETON KEY
SKY HIGH
VALIANT
WEDDING CRASHERS

DEDHAM
Community Theatre, 580 High St | 781.326.0409
BROKEN FLOWERS | 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9 | Sat-Sun: noon
GRIZZLY MAN | 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:10 | Sat-Sun: 12:15

HINGHAM
Loring Hall Cinema, 65 Main St | 781.749.1400
BROKEN FLOWERS | 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10

LEXINGTON
Flick, 1794 Mass Ave | 781.861.6161
BROKEN FLOWERS | 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 12:45, 3, 5:10, 7:05, 9
DOPPLEGANGERS | Mon: 9:30

NEWTON
West Newton Cinema, 1296 Washington St | 617.964.6060
THE ARISTOCRATS | 12:15, 2:40, 4:45, 7, 9:15
DE BATTRE MON CŒUR S'EST ARRÊTÉ/THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED | 1:35, 6:40, 8:55
CINDERELLA MAN | 8
FINDING HOME | 1:15, 6:25
GRIZZLY MAN | 11 am, 1:30, 4:05, 6:35, 9
LADIES IN LAVENDER | 12:45, 3:15, 5:35
MADAGASCAR | 11:05 am
ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW | 11:10 am, 1:20, 6:30, 8:50
MY DATE WITH DREW | 3:55
PAPER CLIPS | 11:20 am
WALK ON WATER | 4, 8:50
THE WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL | 11:25 am, 4:10

RANDOLPH
Showcase Cinema, Rte 139 | 781.963.5600
Please call for times
THE BROTHERS GRIMM
THE CAVE
UNDISCOVERED
BROKEN FLOWERS
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO
THE DUKES OF HAZZARD
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
FOUR BROTHERS
THE GREAT RAID
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS
RED EYE
THE SKELETON KEY
SKY HIGH
SUPERCROSS
VALIANT
WEDDING CRASHERS

SOMERVILLE
Loews Theatres, 35 Middlesex Ave, Assembly Square Mall | 617.628.7000
THE BROTHERS GRIMM | 5, 7:40, 10:20 | Fri-Sun: 11:40 am, 2:20 | Mon-Thurs: noon, 2:30
THE CAVE | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 10:10 | Fri-Sat: midnight | Mon-Thurs: 12:40, 3, 5:40, 8, 10:10
UNDISCOVERED | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am, 1:40, 4, 6:40, 9:15 | Fri-Sat: 11:45 | Mon-Thurs: 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:25, 10:10
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 12:30 | Fri-Sun: 3:20, 6, 8:45 | Fri-Sat: 11:10 | Mon-Thurs: 3:10, 6:10, 9
DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | Fri-Sun: 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 10 | Fri-Sat: 12:10 am | Mon-Thurs: 2, 4:45, 7:50, 10:20
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | Fri-Sun: noon, 2:35, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50 | Mon-Thurs: 1, 4, 7:10, 9:50
FOUR BROTHERS | 12:50, 6:50 | Fri-Sun: 3:50, 9:50 | Fri-Sat: 12:10 am | Mon-Thurs: 3:40, 10
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | Fri-Sun: 1:10, 3:40, 6:20, 8:30, 10:30 | Fri-Sat: 12:15 am | Mon-Thurs: 12:10, 2:10, 4:25, 6:30, 8:30
THE SKELETON KEY | Fri-Sun: 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 8, 10:40 | Mon-Thurs: 12:30, 3:20, 6, 8:45
SUPERCROSS | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am | Mon-Thurs: noon
VALIANT | 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40 | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am | Fri-Sat: 11:30
WEDDING CRASHERS | Fri-Sun: 12:20, 3:10, 6:10, 9 | Fri-Sat: 11:40 | Mon-Thurs: 1:15, 3:50, 6:40, 9:15

SOMERVILLE THEATRE
55 Davis Square | 617.625.5700
BATMAN BEGINS | 1:30, 4:05, 7, 9:05
MUST LOVE DOGS | 1:35, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
NO ENTRY | 6:15, 9:30 | Sat-Thurs: 3
STARS WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH | 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10
WAR OF THE WORLDS | Tues-Thurs: 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
LOONEY TUNES FESTIVAL: Fri-Sat: midnight | Sun: 11 am | Mon: 7
MANGAL PANDEY | Fri-Sun: 6, 9 | Sat-Sun: 3

WALTHAM
Embassy Cinema, 16 Pine St | 781.893.2500
ASYLUM | Fri-Sun: 4:30, 7:05 | Mon-Thurs: 2:50, 7:50
BROKEN FLOWERS | Fri-Sun: 1:35, 4:20, 6:55, 9:25 | Mon-Thurs: 2:40, 5:10, 7:40
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | Fri-Sun: 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20 | Mon-Thurs: 2:20, 4:50, 7:20
JUNEBUG | Fri-Sun: 1:55, 9:15 | Mon-Thurs: 5:20
MAD HOT BALLROOM | Fri-Sun: 1:45, 6:40 | Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 4:30
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | Fri-Sun: 2:05, 4:50, 7, 9:05 | Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 5, 7:10
MURDERBALL | Fri-Sun: 4:40, 9:10 | Mon-Thurs: 8
2046 | Fri-Sun: 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:30 | Mon-Thurs: 2, 4:40, 7:30

WEYMOUTH
Cameo Theater, Columbia Square, South Weymouth | 781.335.2777
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 1:40, 3:30, 5:20, 7:15, 9:20
WEDDING CRASHERS | 1:30, 4, 6:40, 9:10

WOBURN
Showcase, Main St, Middlesex Canal Park | 781.933.5330
Please call for times
THE BROTHERS GRIMM
THE CAVE
UNDISCOVERED
BROKEN FLOWERS
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY
THE DUKES OF HAZZARD
THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
FOUR BROTHERS
THE GREAT RAID
LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR| MARCH OF THE PENGUINS
MUST LOVE DOGS
RED EYE
THE SKELETON KEY
SKY HIGH
VALIANT
WEDDING CRASHERS

FILM SPECIALS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston | 617.536.5400 | Free admission
– "The Remarkable Fredric March Film Series" | **SEVEN DAYS IN MAY** [1964] | John Frankenheimer | Mon: 6
– "Annual IberoAmerican Film Festival | **LIMA WAS!** [2004] | Alejandro Rossi | Wed: 6

THE INDEPENDENT
75 Union Square, Somerville | 617.4440.6022 | Free admission
– "Twisted Endings" | **ALBINO ALLIGATOR** [1996] | Kevin Spacey | Tues: 8

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.369.3300 | $9, $8 for students and seniors unless otherwise noted
– "Music on Film" | **BRASS ON FIRE** [2002] | Ralf Marschalleck | Fri: 6; Sat: 3 | **MÚSICA CUBANA** [2004] | German Kral | Sat: 11 am | **PARAISO** [2004] | Alina Teodorescu | Sun: 3:15 | **ACCORDION TRIBE** [2004] | Stefan Schwietert | Wed: 7:45 | **SEARCHING FOR THE WRONG-EYED JESUS** [2003] | Andrew Douglas | Thurs: 8:15
– "Croatian Cinema" | **WITNESSES** [2003] | Vinko Bresan | Fri: 8; Sat: 1; Sun: 1:15; Wed: 6
– "Cinema India" | **HARI OM** [2004] | Bharatbala | Sun: 11 am
– "Sex and Cinema" | **ANTARES** [2004] | Götz Spielmann | Fri: 5:45
– "The Films of Louis Malle" | **ASCENSEUR POUR L'ÉCHAFAUD| ELEVATOR TO THE GALLOWS** [1957] | Thurs: 6

NORTH END BRANCH LIBRARY
25 Parmenter St, Boston | 617.227.8135 | Free admission
– "Film Gems from the 1990s" | **AS GOOD AS IT GETS** [1997] | James L. Brooks | Wed: 6

SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY
646 East Broadway, South Boston | 617.268.0180 | Free admission
– "Human Conflict Film Series" | **THE MORTAL STORM** [1940] | Frank Borzage | Thurs: 6

Film

CAPSULE REVIEWS

OUR RATING

Superb	⊕⊕⊕⊕
Good	⊕⊕⊕
Middling	⊕⊕
Bearable	⊕
A turkey	⊖

A

ACCORDION TRIBE | 2004 | Stefan Schwietert profiles five musicians who want their instrument to receive once again the recognition it used to enjoy: Maria Kalaniemi from Finland, Bratko Bibic from Slovenia, Slovenian-American Guy Klucevsek, Lars Hollmer from Sweden, and Otto Lechner from Austria. | English + German | 90m | MFA: Wed

⊕⊕ **ALBINO ALLIGATOR | 1996 |** He may embody diabolical craft and exalted evil on screen, but behind the camera Kevin Spacey is no Keyser Soze. In Spacey's uninspired variation of the heist-gone-awry scenario, Matt Dillon, Gary Sinise, and William Fichtner make up an inept trio who, fleeing a botched robbery attempt, unwittingly trip up a federal stakeout, get mistaken for gun-runners, and are compelled to take hostage the denizens of the ratty Southern watering hole of the title. Among those within are Faye Dunaway as the faded barmaid, flavor-of-the-month Skeet Ulrich as a hapless stripping, M. Emmet Walsh as an old coot, and Viggo Mortensen as the Mystery Guest. What follows is a psychodrama of mounting absurdity and dullness — the SWAT team should have spared the hostages watching this pointless inanity by crashing the party a lot earlier. | 97m | Independent Bar & Restaurant: Tues

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **THE ARISTOCRATS | 2005 |** Over the years, and never on stage, comedians have one-upped each other with renditions of a legendarily dirty joke. Its appeal lies not in the set-up or the flat punch line ("The Aristocrats!") but in the exaggerated build-up, in which the teller conjures a perverse family-show-biz routine. In this documentary from director Paul Provenza, a bevy of comics (Paul Reiser, George Carlin, Sarah Silverman) spin their own versions, sparing no reference to pedophilia, incest, or bestiality, while TV writers and others (Chris Rock, Jon Stewart, Phyllis Diller) speculate on the meaning of the ultimately absurd joke. Much of the fun lies not in the lascivious content but in the backstage glimpses of otherwise respectable celebrities unleashing their bluest material, at times with remarkable dexterity. And this controversy-courting blast of sexual and scatological hyperbole also manages, in its bizarre way, to say a lot about comedy, race, taste, and even September 11. | 92m | Boston Common + Kendall Square + West Newton

⊕⊕ **ASCENSEUR POUR L'ÉCHAFAUD|ELEVATOR TO THE GALLOWS | 2005 |** This early Louis Malle neo-noir is the reverse of his 1960s and 1970s work: all form and little content or meaning. Malle's night in Paris with two criss-crossed murders is 100 percent mood: Miles Davis's dazzling improv trumpet playing on the soundtrack, ambient black-and-white cinematography from the great Henri Decaë, shot after shot of Jeanne Moreau's astoundingly chameleonic face as she searches through sketchy locales for her missing criminal lover. Although it's fun, none of this has metaphysical resonance — it's just a post-grad exercise in showing off by the then 24-year-old. | French | 88m | MFA: Thurs

⊕⊕⊕ **AS GOOD AS IT GETS | 1997 |** James Brooks's pleasantly manipulative film has Jack Nicholson as Melvin Udall, a novelist whose purple prose about love belies a life of snide misanthropy, prejudice, and wicked wit. The director of *Terms of Endearment*, however, is nothing if not a sentimentalist, so Brooks also includes such stock characters as gay neighbor Simon (a simpering Greg Kinnear), tough waitress Carol (an engagingly threadbare Helen Hunt), and Brussels griffon Verdell (Jill, one of the most beguiling dogs in filmdom). Nicholson's scenes with Jill are hilarious and heartbreaking; those with Hunt are almost convincing; those with Kinnear are cloying in the extreme. He's most entertaining in his scenes with himself, spouting *bons mots* of such malevolent wisdom that it's sad to ponder Melvin's inevitable conversion to kind-hearted vapidity. Nicholson and Hunt won Oscars for Best Actor and Actress, but Brooks was passed over, and so, unaccountably, was Jill. | 139m | North End Branch Library: Wed

⊕ **ASYLUM | 2005 |** Patrick McGrath writes dreary books that make dreary movies. When adapted by a great director like David Cronenberg (*Spider*), they're pretentious and dreary; when adapted by a lesser talent like David Mackenzie, they're dull and dreary. In dull dreary post–World War II England, dull dreary psychiatrist Max Raphael (Hugh Bonneville) takes a post at a creepy asylum for the criminally insane. This being the '50s, his vivacious wife, Stella (Natasha Richardson), is left to provide the fruitcake at the Christmas dance. Enter dark and glowering Edgar (Marton Csokas, a poor man's Clive Owen), a mad sculptor incarcerated for murdering his wife, and a montage of surreptitious liaisons ensues. When Edgar escapes, so does Stella, but this brief outburst of desire takes its dutiful dull dreary toll. Both book and novel gamely tout a pre-feminist message of doomed liberation, and Ian McKellen brings a tart portrayal to his role as an insidious shrink, but *Asylum* evokes the claustrophobic tedium of the title enclosure. | 97m | Harvard Square + Embassy

B

⊕⊕⊕ **BATMAN BEGINS | 2005 |** At the beginning of Christopher Nolan's film, young Bruce Wayne (Gus Lewis) falls into an abandoned well on his millionaire father's estate and thousands of bats surge from the darkness. Later, at the opera, a frightened Bruce insists on leaving when the extras take leathery-winged flight, whereupon his parents are gunned down outside by a desperate mugger. After a journey to the Himalaya and Ducard (Liam Neeson, in a variation of his Jedi role), representative of the League of Shadows, the adult Bruce (Christian Bale) reappears in Gotham City as an indifferent playboy, much to the disgust of dedicated DA and former childhood sweetheart Rachel (Katie Holmes). But Bruce's Batman is a work in progress, put together with elements of his ninja training, bits of hardware from the Wayne Enterprises experimental applications warehouse (overseen by an avuncular Morgan Freeman), and TLC from family butler Alfred (Michael Caine earning a stipend). The enemy he challenges has many faces, but the ultimate adversary is terror: illusory, ubiquitous, irrational. | 140m | Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

BOMB THE SYSTEM | 2005 | Nina MacLaughlin's review on p 6 | 93m | Kendall Square

BRASS ON FIRE | 2002 | Ralf Marschalleck's documentary traces the evolution of the Romanian Gypsy brass band Fanfare Ciocarlia. | German + Romanian | 103m | MFA: Fri-Sat

⊕⊕⊕ **BROKEN FLOWERS | 2005 |** Jim Jarmusch's film has old roué Don Johnston (Bill Murray) receiving an unsigned letter from, it would seem, an old flame informing him that he has a 19-year-old son and that the boy is searching for his father. Noting the pink envelope, neighbor Winston (Jeffrey Wright) sends him off with a bouquet of pink flowers for each ex, and in short order Don has dropped in on Laura (Sharon Stone), Dora (Frances Conroy), Carmen (Jessica Lange), and Penny (Tilda Swinton). What does he find? A few clues, such as a pink typewriter and a cat named Winston, and several opportunities for Jarmusch to parody the garishness of America. But

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Sat, Aug 27, 3 pm
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Sat, Aug 27, 11 am
Old & new Cuban music.

Paraiso
Sun, Aug 28, 3:15 pm
Wed, Aug 31 7:45 pm
Poetic look at Cuban hip-hop.

Accordion Tribe
Wed, Aug 31, 7:45 pm
6 international accordion stars.

Searching for the Wrong-Eyed Jesus
Thu, Sep 1, 8:15 pm
Fri, Sep 2, 5 pm & 8:30 pm
Journey through Southern roots music.

ENGAGEMENTS

Witnesses
Fri, Aug 26, 8 pm
Sat, Aug 27, 1 pm
Sun, Aug 28, 1:15 pm
Wed, Aug 31, 6 pm
Croatian war mystery

The Lovers
Fri, Sep 2, 6:40pm

FILMS OF LOUIS MALLE

Elevator to the Gallows
Thu, Sep 1, 6 pm
A woman and her lover plot murder.

The Lovers
Fri, Sep 2, 6:40 pm
Jeanne Moreau stars in adultery tale.

CINEMA INDIA

Hari Om
Sun, Aug 28, 11 am
Bollywood musical road trip romance.

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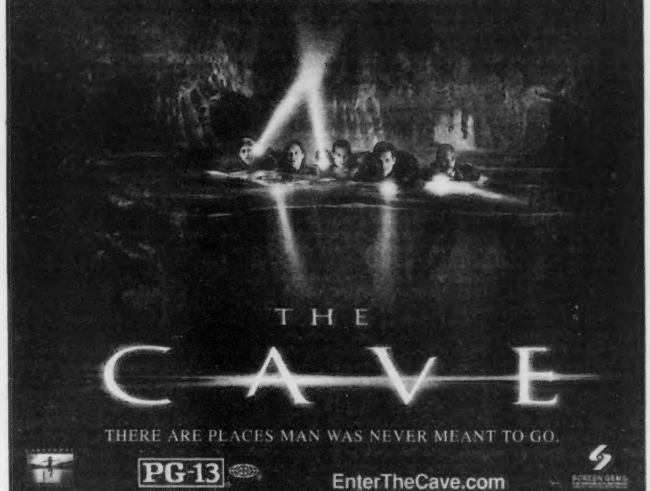

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AND AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

Don doesn't reconcile himself with the past, he kisses it goodbye. Hell for this Don Juan is not punishment for his excesses but a reminder that in the end they come to nothing. | 107m | Boston Common + Harvard Square + Coolidge Corner + Embassy

THE BROTHERS GRIMM | 2005 | Brett Michel's review on p 6 | 119m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Circle + suburbs

C

THE CAVE | 2005 | Bruce Hunt makes his feature-film debut in this story of underwater spelunkers who run into monsters. Cole Hauser, Morris Chestnut, Lean Headey, and Piper Perabo star. | 97m | Boston Common + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

⊕⊕ CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY | 2005 | Tim Burton's adaptation of Roald Dahl's book, which was the basis for Mel Stuart's 1971 *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, has a magical first half-hour in which we meet "ordinary little boy" Charlie Bucket (Freddie Highmore, Peter from *Finding Neverland*), whose mother (Helena Bonham Carter, off-screen mother of Burton's son) prepares cabbage soup for every meal because that's all the family can afford. But Charlie's about to join four other lucky children in the chocolate factory of Willy Wonka, who hasn't been seen for nearly 15 years. So far so good, but then we get Johnny Depp (J.M. Barrie from *Finding Neverland*) playing Willy as a children's-show host ("like Captain Kangaroo or Mr. Green Jeans") merged with the visage of *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour and Burton's insistence that Willy "can't stand children." The result is the Howard Hughes of confectioners, a Wonka wholly antithetical to Dahl's jovial bullshit artist. The casting was universally better in the earlier film (no question Stuart was a better director of children), and Gene Wilder's Willy was an avuncular man of mystery. Here that mystery is gone, replaced by a simple-minded back story. | 119m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + Embassy + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ CINDERELLA MAN | 2005 | Damon Runyon called Jim Braddock the "Cinderella Man," and that's the fairy tale that Ron Howard believes in, as he and screenwriter Akiva Goldsman evoke the chill and the soot of the 1930s. Russell Crowe brings to mind a doughy John Garfield as Braddock, a man comfortable in his own efficient flesh. He doesn't talk much; he leaves that to his manager, Joe Gould, who's played with almost irritating energy by Paul Giamatti. They bond against Renée Zellweger at her pastiest as Jim's wife, Mae, who nags him when there's not enough money to buy milk for their three kids and nags him again when he earns it in the ring because she's afraid he might get hurt. Howard, of course, can't blame the system for his hero's travails, so he posits a few villains, like Max Baer, who's played by Craig Bierko as a cross between a heavy-metal star and Mike Tyson. But give the director credit for transforming what some have described as the dullest championship bout in history into an epic event. | 144m | West Newton + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕⊕ IL CONFORMISTA|THE CONFORMIST | 1971 | Leaves fly ferociously into the camera; tiny, rat-like dogs overrun the bed of a morphine-addicted invalid; a bureaucrat sits like a sphinx at an immense marble desk placed squarely in the center of an office as cavernous as a warehouse. Set in Italy in the late '30s, Bernardo Bertolucci's film of the Alberto Moravia novel is rich and delirious. His treatment of Fascism as unresolved homosexual tension may be dated and unsatisfying as a concept, but this remains a great movie made by a true poet director. The extraordinary stars are Jean-Louis Trintignant as the Fascist, Stefania Sandrelli as his silly, endearing wife, and Dominique Sanda as the sultry and sexual other woman. | Italian | 115m | Brattle

THE CONSTANT GARDENER | 2005 | Peter Keough's review on p 6 | 129m | Kendall Square [Aug 31]

⊕⊕⊕⊕ CRASH | 2005 | Writer/director Paul Haggis slices into America's racism and elitism with this story set in highway-connected Los Angeles. Officer Ryan (Matt Dillon), in search of carjackers, starts the ball rolling when he pulls over a luxury SUV driven by well-dressed African-American couple Cameron and Christine (Terrence Howard and Thandie Newton) and humiliates them by frisking and groping her. The ripples from his transgression spread far and wide over the film's 48-hour span, snaring image-hawking DA Rick (a snooty Brendan Fraser), his brass bitch of a lily-white wife, Jean (Sandra Bullock), the real carjackers (rapper Ludacris, in a breakthrough performance, and Larenz Tate), the Latino locksmith under suspicion because of his gang-banger tattoos (Michael Peña), an Iranian shopkeeper with a chip on his shoulder (Shaun Toub), and Graham (Don Cheadle), the by-the-book homicide detective bearing the shame of his family's indigence. By its end, *Crash* has produced a cavalcade of wrecks, from twisted metal and torn flesh to broken souls. | 107m | Arlington Capitol + suburbs

D

⊕⊕⊕⊕ DE BATTRE MON CŒUR S'EST ARRÊTÉ|THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED | 2004 | Tom (Romain Duris), the protagonist of Jacques Audiard's brilliant remake of James Toback's 1978 *Fingers*, mourns the days when he played the piano, a legacy from his deceased mother, herself a concert pianist. Now he works in real estate, a business, as he tells a teacher at an aborted audition, that consists of planting rats in the apartments of unwanted tenants and working over squatters with a baseball bat. That profession is the legacy of his father, an over-the-hill deal maker whose foiled schemes Tom is called on to back up with his muscle. Audiard's jagged, vérité-like style and Duris's performance — evoking not so much Harvey Keitel's in Toback's film as a combination of the Keitel and Robert De Niro characters in *Mean Streets* — transcend the story's absurdities. | French | 107m | Kendall Square + West Newton

⊕⊕⊕ DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO | 2005 | Sassier than its predecessor and significantly more sophomoric, *Deuce 2* amounts to an 80-minute dick joke, where Lil Kim is an Asian "man whore" with a microscopic penis and the Golden Boner is an Oscar-like statue given to Europe's most accomplished gigolo. Our eponymous nincompoop (*SNL* alum Rob Schneider), reluctant stud and inadvertent do-gooder, lands in Amsterdam and is quickly under the gun to clear the name of his former pimp, T.J. (Eddie Griffin), who's accused of being the "man-whore serial killer." Silly and preposterous, yes, but the rapid fire-pacing by director Mike Bigelow and the spot-on gags, including a Russian chanteuse with a penis for a nose, plays on racial stereotypes, and an obnoxious French man who rants about American arrogance (*Shock and Awe*) and doing it doggie, will tickle your inner 14-year-old boy. | 83m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

⊕ THE DUKES OF HAZZARD | 2005 | What once barely sufficed for a dumb hour sit-com is now plenty for a feature movie. Also, celebrity reality TV seems to have influenced director Jay Chandrasekhar in his casting: Willie Nelson, Lynda Carter, and Jessica Simpson as members of the Duke clan and Burt Reynolds as Boss Hogg should team up again for a session of *The Surreal Life*. Mostly, though, this effort consists of car chases and shots of the "The General Lee" flying off ramps while the filmmakers try to get the most out of redneck humor (there's a scene in blackface) without offending anyone important. Seann William Scott and Johnny Knoxville exude a feral charm, but the most memorable part is the ending, which suggests that while we're distracted by NASCAR, *Big Brother*, and crummy movies like this, the sharpies are out there stealing the farm. | 106m | Boston Common + Fenway + suburbs

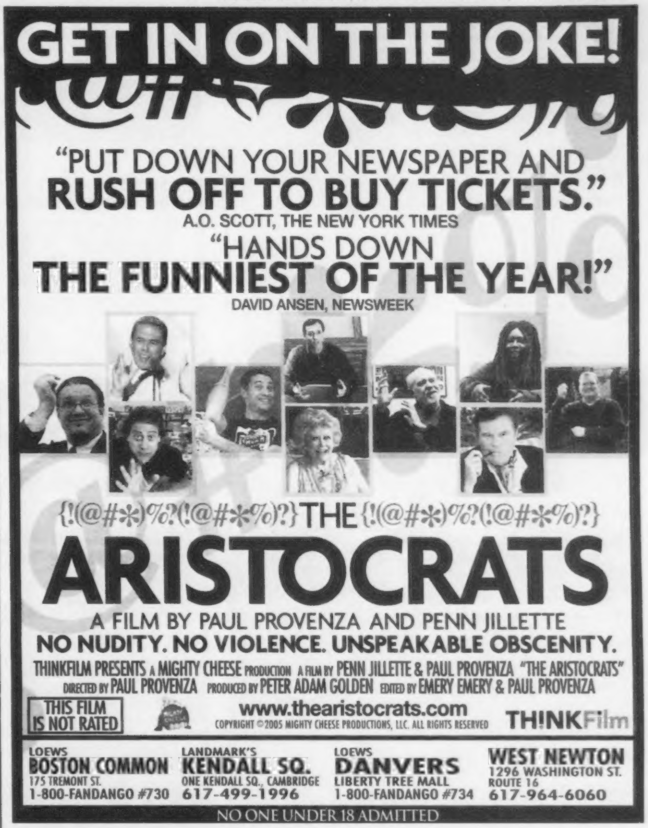
F

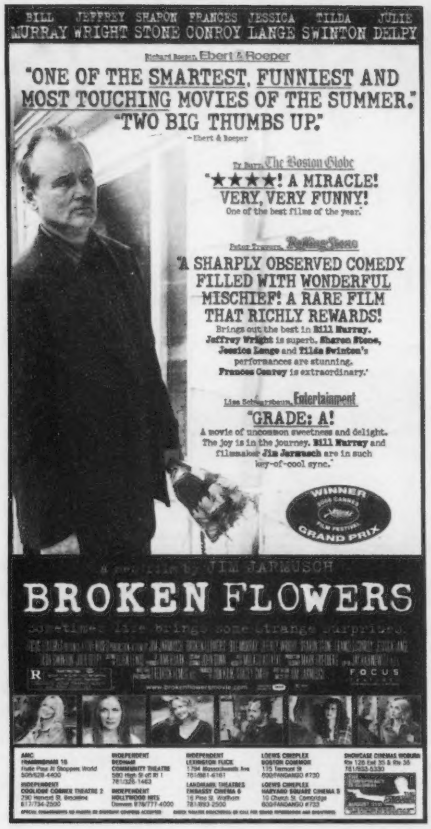
⊕⊕⊕ FANTASTIC FOUR | 2005 | Tim Story's screen adaptation of the Marvel comic is cheesy in production values; it's the clash of personalities that makes the film in any way fantastic. The Four get their superpowers when a space mission financed by megalomaniac tycoon Victor Von Doom (Julian McMahon) goes awry. Von Doom and rubber man Reed Richards/Mr. Fantastic (Ioan Gruffudd) are former MIT classmates, and Victor's got a thing for Sue/The Invisible Woman (Jessica Alba), who used to date Reed. That's one source of tension; another is the sibling rivalry between Sue and her brother Johnny/The Human Torch (Chris Evans), but it's the I-just-want-to-be-loved woes of Ben Grimm/The Thing (Michael Chiklis) that endear — his wife, not taking to his new physique, rejects him, and his fingers are too big to pick her wedding band off the tarmac. Story (*Barbershop* and *Taxi*) keeps the pacing taut, restraining the derring-do and FX until Von Doom unleashes his electro-magnetic rays on midtown Manhattan. | 105m | Boston Common

⊕⊕ FINDING HOME | 2003 | An ambitious New York workaholic inherits her grandmother's inn on a faraway isle off the coast of Maine — but for Amanda (Lisa Brenner), the bucolic Maine coast is not all sunsets and lobster traps. When she returns to the island, she uncovers dark family secrets and confronts long-repressed memories of her tyrannical mother (Jeanetta Arnette) and sexual violence as she's reunited with ghosts from the past including her grandmother (Louise Fletcher) and a childhood crush who remained on the island. A simplicity of style and storytelling gives Lawrence David Foldes's film an old-fashioned feel. Hallucinatory flashbacks propel the plot and explain the past, and the older generation of actors (Fletcher and Geneviève Bujold) gives the film dignity. But the younger characters are cardboard and cliché, and all the blossoming love and forgiveness is syrupy and predictable, just so much artificial sweetener. | 124m | West Newton

⊕⊕⊕ THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN | 2005 | Judd Apatow, the genius behind the TV cult hit *Freaks and Geeks*, brings his smart, sweet sensibility to this adult sex comedy. Title virgin Andy (Steve Carell from Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*) is a nerdy guy who's given up on getting it on. When his

Continued on p 11





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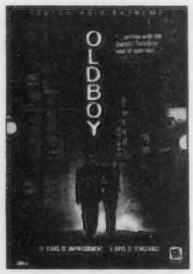

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CAPSULE REVIEWS

Film

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sex-obsessed buddies find out, they make getting him laid their mission, but Andy holds back until he meets single mother Trish (Catherine Keener), who wants to take things slow. The joke is that Andy's experienced friends, with their fixation on women's bodies and their inability to stay in a relationship (Paul Rudd stands out as the broken-hearted David), are more immature than he is. They provide the gross-out moments, and the proceedings drag when everyone's forced to grow or learn, but Andy and Trish with their gentle courtship keep the movie from becoming a one-note joke. | 113m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕ **FOUR BROTHERS | 2005 |** John Singleton's film finds four street-tough adopted brothers, two white and two black, banding together to avenge their mother's murder in the badlands of Detroit. Mark Wahlberg's Bobby, the lawbreaking but good-hearted eldest, grab-asses and galvanizes lothario Angel (Tyrese Gibson), troubled punk-rocker Jack (Garrett Hedlund), and struggling family man Jeremiah (André Benjamin) into a team who must take down corruption in high places to achieve justice. Justice in this case is vigilantism, so you have to wonder why mom's smiling spirit, having made a visit to correct the boys' table manners at a mawkish Thanksgiving dinner, is absent when they gun down helpless evildoers in cold blood. Singleton gets credit for espousing racial equality but loses points for the film's taint of homophobia and misogyny. There's no faulting the boys' off-color camaraderie, however, or Singleton's endorsement of organized labor in a last-minute twist. | 120m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE FRENCH CONNECTION | 1971 |** William Friedkin's jacked-up nasty-cop-in-New-York drama, an Oscar winner for Best Picture, remains a definitive urban thriller. As Popeye Doyle, Gene Hackman offers what amounts to a magnificent vaudeville turn: as a renegade cop trying to crack an international heroin-smuggling operation. Rattling off obscenities and knocking off minorities, he makes being a jerk seem mesmerizing. With the justly famous car-versus-subway chase and Fernando Rey as an irresistibly suave heroin smuggler. | 104m | Coolidge Corner: Mon

G

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **GRIZZLY MAN | 2005 |** Timothy Treadwell, who spent 13 summers living among grizzlies in the Alaskan wilderness, is the latest of Werner Herzog's "holy fools," but he has less in common with Herzog's "best fiend," Klaus Kinski, than with the director himself. As Herzog relates in his distinctive German-accented narration, Treadwell — who shot 100 hours of nature footage over five years — was able to capture "the unexpected magic of cinema." Like Herzog, Treadwell frequently turned the camera on himself. After descending into a life of booze and drugs, the former Timothy Dexter reinvented himself as "kind warrior" Treadwell, child-like bear expert, educator, and preservationist from Australia. But on October 6, he and his girlfriend were eaten by a grizzly. After showing initial empathy, Herzog allows Treadwell's madness to emerge. Herzog's conclusion? "The common denominator of the universe is not harmony — it's chaos, hostility, and murder." | 103m | Kendall Square + West Newton

H

HARI OM | 2004 | Bharatbala's unusual road movie pairs the title Rajasthan rickshaw driver, who has big debts and dreams of being a movie star, with a French tourist who gets dumped by her boyfriend. He needs to get out of town; she needs a lift. | English + French + Hindi | 108m | MFA: Sun

⊕⊕ **HUSTLE & FLOW | 2005 |** This indie *8 Mile* begins with a few nods to Quentin Tarantino: a winding monologue, a *Jackie Brown* credits sequences, and Isaac Hayes popping up in an unexpected place. Terrence Dashon Howard's DJay is a bored Memphis pimp looking for a fresh career direction. Inspired by the fame of home-town boy and rap sensation Skinny Black (Ludacris), DJay enlists the help of his harem and a former schoolmate (Anthony Anderson) to record a demo tape to play for his idol. The film's gritty Memphis portrays a hidden America that Hollywood doesn't deign to acknowledge, and the film does generate some genuine moments and performances, especially Howard's. But remove the appeal of hip-hop and hookers and you're left with a formulaic success story. Craig Brewster's earnest script and direction lack his influence's video-store-clerk mischievousness, and *Hustle & Flow* gets bogged down in clichés. | 114m | Fenway + suburbs

J

⊕⊕⊕ **JUNEBUG | 2005 |** Phil Morrison's film begins with a cavalcade of pig calls, a rendering of General Lee's dick shooting bullets, and an anonymous fuck. The director's dysfunctional Southern universe centers on George (Alessandro Nivola), a quiet, reserved type with a boyish grin that hides trouble. George returns home to small-town North Carolina with Madeline (Embeth Davidtz), his wife of six months, who owns an art gallery in Chicago; she's making the trip not to meet his parents but because she's interested in a local who specializes in Civil War art. After a warm reception, nothing clicks. George's pregnant sister-in-law, Ashley (Amy Adams), is obsessed with Madeline's worldliness, and his brother, Johnny (Benjamin McKenzie from *The OC*), is a jealous hack, unfulfilled and ready to explode. Revelations fly, and the actors carry the proceedings with gusto, especially Adams and Celia Weston and Scott Wilson as George's parents. | 102m | Kendall Square + Embassy

L

⊕⊕ **LADIES IN LAVENDER | 2005 |** Making his directorial debut, actor Charles Dance adapts William J. Locke's short story of the same title (which itself seems to echo Joseph Conrad's far darker "Amy Foster"), a slight idyll about two elderly sisters, Ursula (Judi Dench) and Janet (Maggie Smith), who find a young man (Daniel Brühl) half drowned on the beach by their house on the Cornwall coast. He can't speak a word of English, but the way Ursula stares at him like a moonstruck heifer makes it clear he doesn't need to, and it almost seems unfair when he picks up a violin and summons up a Bach Partita to die for. Oh and World War II is starting up, or at least that seems to be gist of the occasional broadcasts sputtered on the wireless, and Olga (Natascha McElhone), a mysterious Russian visitor, has taken an interest in the newcomer. So it appears Ursula's hopeless crush might be spirited away, and Poland might be invaded as well. David Warner puts in a dyspeptic performance as the horny local doctor; otherwise this exercise in scenery and music is as innocuous as a nosegay. | 104m | West Newton

"LOONEY TUNES FESTIVAL." "Eighteen classic cartoons." No particulars, but how can you go wrong? | Somerville Theatre: Fri-Sat midnight + Sun-Mon

M

⊕⊕ **MADAGASCAR | 2005 |** This romp about two friends pushed to opposite ends of the food chain gets lost in the jungle of target market greed — no surprise since it comes from the same DreamWorks Animation factory that churned out *Shrek* and *Shark Tale*. The African island of the title, home to lemurs and other oddities, is the accidental dumping point for a lion, a hippo, a giraffe, and an antsy zebra from the pampered keep of the Central Park Zoo. Best friends Alex the Lion (Ben Stiller) and Marty the Zebra (Chris Rock) realize they're predator and prey — can friendship surmount primal instincts? How they get shipwrecked (a SWAT team and penguins who hijack a freighter) is the most amusing part of the tale. But once on the island, the displaced four fall into a lemur orgy, get chased by a pack of ravenous fossa, and watch a duckling get mauled by a croc. In short, *Madagascar* is a violent place, and the filmmakers (Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath) layer in lackluster nods to *Chariots of Fire*, *Castaway*, and *Planet of the Apes* that won't make kids laugh. | 80m | West Newton + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

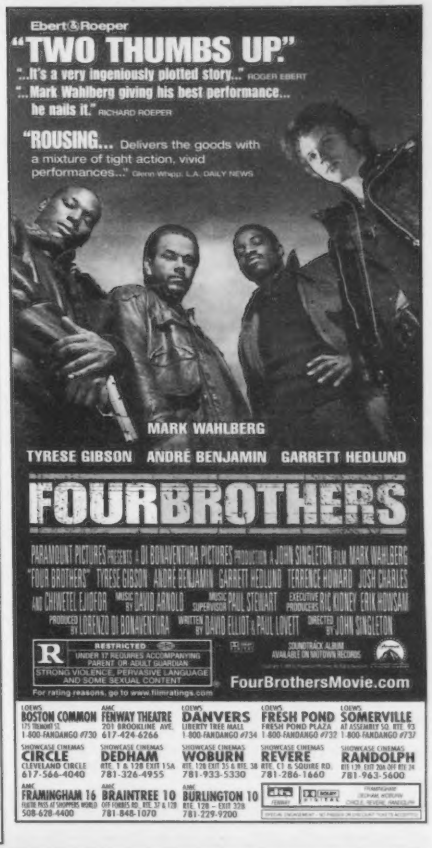
⊕⊕⊕ **MAD HOT BALLROOM | 2005 |** This documentary about New York City fifth-graders in a ballroom-dance competition follows the lead of 2002's *Spellbound*, but whereas the latter turned the National Spelling Bee into a nail-biter, director Marilyn Agrelo's debut sometimes loses its fancy footing. In the early going, Agrelo waltzes a crowd of kids from three public schools across the screen; several, such as coltish Emma and amber-eyed Wilson, beg for back story. After-school chats underscore the problems of poverty and urban evil, yet Agrelo never delves into any one life. Still, there's no denying the charms of these frank-talking little Freds and Gingers, and the film delivers the expected dose of pathos and humor. Like its young subjects, *Mad Hot Ballroom* starts out stiff but swings in the end. | 105m | Embassy + Arlington Capitol

⊕⊕⊕ **LA MARCHE DE L'EMPEREUR|MARCH OF THE PENGUINS | 2005 |** The emperor penguin waddles forth as an exemplar of family values in first-time director Luc Jacquet's quiet, engrossing documentary. Each spring, the Antarctic birds shuffle 70 miles to begin their mating ritual, and soon the trumpeting mob are dancing beak to beak. As kinky as it sounds, the penguin sex scene is weirdly sensual; it's also one of the few times, and appropriately so, that otherwise eloquent narrator Morgan Freeman keeps mum. From here, the stakes rise, as the males egg-sit, the females leave to feed, and the temperature dips to 80 below. It's a tedious life, and that shows in the film's pacing. Still, there are arresting visuals, from the sculptural, blue-glossed glaciers to the snow-dusted mass of penguin patres familias, and images of toddling chicks balance out the darker moments. Jacques Perrin's *Le peuple migrateur|Winged Migration* has the aerial footage, but the emperors' flightlessness doesn't ground their story. | French | 80m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Coolidge Corner + Chestnut Hill + Embassy

⊕⊕⊕ **ME AND YOU AND EVERYONE WE KNOW | 2005 |** Performance artist Miranda July's debut feature recalls a number of contemporary films about interconnecting lives and kooky relationships made by women — Rebecca Miller's *Personal Velocity*, Rose Troche's *The Safety of Objects*, Nicole Holofcener's *Lovely & Amazing*. John Hawkes is affecting and humorous as a shoe salesman rebounding from a broken marriage and resisting the advances of an aspiring performance artist played with authoritative kookiness by July herself. This romance has charm, feeling, and rueful comedy, and yet you might be more intrigued by the things off to the side, like the sexual explorations of Hawkes's character's two sons, or the secret trousseau of the sad, pallid neighbor girl. Perhaps that's what makes a film an independent film: it suggests a life independent of its being a film. | 90m | Kendall Square + Coolidge Corner + West Newton

THE MORTAL STORM | 1940 | *The Shop Around the Corner* was so successful, MGM decided to follow it up with another vehicle for Jimmy Stewart and Margaret Sullavan. This Frank Borzage–directed film, based on Phyllis Bottome's novel, is set in Munich in a small university community, and it

Continued on p 12



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Film

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shows Nazism dividing a family and forcing two free-thinking young people (Stewart and Sullavan) to flee over the mountains on skis. Hitler reacted by banning all MGM films in Germany. With Robert Young, Frank Morgan, Robert Stack, Bonita Granville, and Dan Dailey. | b&w | 100m | South Boston Branch Library: Thurs

⊕⊕⊖ **MURDERBALL | 2005 |** Part ESPN highlight reel, part MTV flash, Henry Alex Rubin & Dana Adam Shapiro's documentary about wheelchair rugby moves in unexpected ways. The film begins with the US and Team Canada squaring off for the 2002 world championship and concludes with a rematch at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens. The agitating element: perennial MVP Joe Soares, cut from the US squad, coaches the Canadians. Early on Soares gets into a four-letter pissing contest with Mark Zupan, one of the young guns who unseated him. Acrimony aside, the two exude the same machismo; Soares is the embodiment of Robert Duvall's hard-ass in *Apocalypse Now* and Zupan proclaims himself a "serious" athlete, "not like the Special Olympics where you get a pat on the back." Off court there's the cheesy "how to" sex video for quads, Soares advising his effeminate son, and Zupan confronting the driver that crippled him. It's a compelling tour de force with a torrent of emotion pounding underneath. | 88m | Coolidge Corner + Embassy

MÚSICA CUBANA | 2004 | German Kral filmed this documentary in which 77-year-old singer Pio Leiva (*Buena Vista Social Club*) hooks up with a cab driver to put together a band from Cuba's brightest young talents. | Spanish | 90m | MFA: Sat

⊕⊖ **MUST LOVE DOGS | 2005 |** Sarah (Diane Lane) is a lovelorn divorcée, so her sister, in a fit of contrived helpfulness, posts Sarah's profile on an on-line dating site. Little hilarity ensues as Sarah goes on numerous bad dates; then she meets Jake (John Cusack) after his friend finds her photo. Director Gary David Goldberg makes it painfully clear that Jake and Sarah have submitted to on-line dating only to please others, but it hardly matters, since there's nothing remotely interesting about either of them. And though Lane and Cusack can be appealing, they flounder here. Goldberg pulls out every romantic-comedy cliché for a movie that you should see only if that's what it takes to get someone to go out with you. | 98m | Fenway + Circle + Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

MY DATE WITH DREW | 2005 | This is the story of aspiring New Jersey filmmaker Brian Herzlinger's crush on Drew Barrymore (ever since he saw her in *E.T.*) and his attempt to get the title date with her. It's also the film of that quest, but he's got only 30 days to make it, because after that they have to return the video camera to Circuit City. | 90m | West Newton

P

⊕⊖ **PAPER CLIPS | 2004 |** The eighth-grade class of a school in Whitwell, Tennessee (a community of 2000, predominantly white and Christian), decides to study the Holocaust and create a commemorative art project. Having learned that paper clips were a secret sign worn by supporters of victims of the Nazis, the students attempt, via grassroots appeals, to amass nine million of them. The response and its effect upon the community are remarkable: the students enlist two savvy and lovable German journalists to expand the scope of their project, and eventually it's widely publicized and celebrated. But directors Elliot Berlin and Joe Fab have made *Paper Clips* a self-congratulatory, ingenuous, and smarmy portrait of a small-town America that had apparently never heard of, much less considered, the Holocaust. There are so many egregiously scripted and gratuitously choreographed moments that this film can serve as a study in how not to make a documentary. | 82m | West Newton

PARAISO | 2004 | Alina Teodorescu's documentary follows Cuban musical group Madera Limpia as they combine rap and hip-hop with traditional island rhythms. | Spanish | 90m | MFA: Sun

R

⊕⊕ **RED EYE | 2005 |** Veteran horror director Wes Craven combines the specter of terrorism and the obnoxious person you're crammed next to for six hours on a cross-country flight and comes up with a bore. Rachel McAdams is a luminous talent waiting for a breakout role; she won't find it as Lisa, a workaholic functionary at a swank Miami hotel. Flying back home after attending a funeral, Lisa's at first charmed by her seat mate (Cillian Murphy, looking disarmingly like documentarian Ken Burns), then shocked when he tells her that her father (Brian Cox, who gets to sleep a lot) will be killed if she doesn't assist in a plot to assassinate the Head of Homeland Security, who'll be staying at her hotel. Craven gets some mileage out of the minimal confined setting (a ballpoint pen, a Dr. Phil book), but Murphy proves an unthreatening antagonist and McAdams is burdened by empowerment issues. One to watch on an airplane with the sound off. | 85m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕ **THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | 1976 |** This horror-camp extravaganza still draws midnight crowds. Its story of two dorky, all-American kids (Barry Bostwick and Susan Sarandon) who find themselves indoctrinated into the pansexual ways of Dr. Frank-N-Furter is no more outrageous than *La Cage aux Folles*, but only a curmudgeon would deny the magnetism of Tim Curry, whose lip-smacking rendition of "Sweet Transvestite" remains one of the high points in all of cult movies. Jim Sharman directs. | 100m | Harvard Square: Sat midnight

S

SEARCHING FOR THE WRONG-EYED JESUS | 2003 | This documentary from Britisher Andrew Douglas is narrated by musician and songwriter Jim White, who explores his own Southern heritage as he talks to other musicians including Johnny Dowd, the Handsome Family, Lee Sexton, David Johansen, and Melissa Swingle. | 82m | MFA: Thurs

SEVEN DAYS IN MAY | 1964 | John Frankenheimer's suspense film, adapted by Rod Serling from the Fletcher Knebel bestseller, about a military plot to overthrow the government. Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas, Fredric March, Ava Gardner, and John Houseman star. | b&w | 118m | BPL: Mon

⊕⊕⊕ **SHAFT | 1971 |** Isaac Hayes, the voice of Chef on *South Park*, credits this film, for which he did the foxy, Oscar-winning music, as the place where hip-hop style began: "That whole look came out of *Shaft*. It was very masculine; the music was very masculine: who's the black private dick that's the sex machine with all the chicks?" Gordon Parks directed this essential item in the current blaxploitation revival, with Richard Roundtree as black private eye John Shaft, who amid lots of sex and violence chases after the kidnapped daughter of a Harlem ganglord. | 100m | Coolidge Corner: Fri-Sat midnight

⊕⊕ **THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS | 2005 |** One pair of jeans that flatters four different asses? That's the initial magic of the eponymous thrift-shop threads, until they mystically connect the 16-year-olds who share them during a summer of separation. Ken Kwapis's middling film stays true to the fanciful aspects of Ann Brashares's best-selling young-adult novel, which digs deep into the inner lives of the outwardly stereotypical best friends. But here rebellious Tibby (Amber Tamblyn), prim Lena (Alexis Bledel), reckless Bridget (Blake Lively), and expressive Carmen (America Ferrera) are quartered into flat teen versions of the *Sex in the City* gals. By the time each actress has worked her climactic moping/yelling/crying scene, the drama has become shrill and overwrought, though Ferrera (*Real Women Have Curves*) is a standout. Unlike the peripatetic pants, this awkward jump from page to screen is a less-than-perfect fit. | 119m | Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕ **THE SKELETON KEY | 2005 |** Ehren Kruger, scripter of *The Ring*, wrote this predictable offering, which proves that all the Spanish moss in the South does not a thriller make. Hospice worker Caroline (Kate Hudson) moves into an old Louisiana mansion to care for its ailing owner (John Hurt). She's given a skeleton key that unlocks every room, including an attic stocked with enough *gris-gris* to fill a voodoo museum and clues about ghosts, spells, and a lynching. Thunderstorms, flickering candles, and bumps in the night follow. Hudson's scream queen is smarter than most but still meets the requirements — snooping where she shouldn't, flashing a bit of breast in the obligatory shower scene, and looking frightened-yet-adorable throughout. Hurt is the star: as a wheelchair-bound mute, he uses his eyes to convey his fear of his wife (Gena Rowlands), who may be to blame for his condition. Like *The Ring*, *Key* has creepy images and ends with a twist, but directed by Iain Softley (*K-PAX*), it unlocks none of that film's uncanny terror. | 104m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕⊖ **SKY HIGH | 2005 |** The title high school in the clouds for superhero offspring is divided into the have-powers (heroes) and the have-nots (sidekicks). Freshman Will Stronghold (Michael Angarano, the gimpy hanger-on in *Lords of Dogtown*) flunks his powers test and is relegated to the latter group, gravely disappointing his parents, the Commander (Kurt Russell) and Jetstream (Kelly Preston), highly revered crimebusters who undercover are the most prolific real-estate agents in their tidy burb. We get superpowered pranks, classist hallway jockeying, and a villainous uprising; Wonder Woman Lynda Carter even pops up as Principal Powers, and of course Will finds his mojo when the prom goes *Carrie*. Derivative and cheesy, yes, but director Mike Mitchell (*Deuce Bigalow*) spins it all together with the tongue-in-cheek verve of *Pee-wee's Playhouse*. | 102m | Arlington Capitol

⊕⊕⊕ **STAR WARS: EPISODE III – REVENGE OF THE SITH | 2005 |**

Video Clips

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **OLDBOY | TARTAN ASIA EXTREME |** Persons unknown have imprisoned Dae-su (Choi Min-sik), a noisome but otherwise nondescript Seoul drunk, for 15 years in a seedy apartment with only cable TV and hideously decorated walls for company. He channel-surfs and beats the walls until, also without explanation, he's released. (One of the news stories he sees on the TV is about the murder of his wife and daughter, which is blamed on him.) His incarcerator turns out to be an "oldboy" with a grudge deeper than Dae-su could ever imagine and resources greater than any viewer could believe. Of course, Dae-su's real tormentor is the director Park Chan-wook, who teases and torments his hero as he regales the viewer with his sadistic caprices. Against such forces, the hero can defy destiny by crusading for revenge, by seeking the truth, or by resigning himself to ignorance and indifference. And Park exquisitely demonstrates how each option is not only futile but self-destructive. | Korean | 120m

⊕⊕⊕ **DUST TO GLORY | MGM |** Dana Brown, who took over the *Endless Summer* surf-documentary series from his father with *Step into Liquid* (2003), returns to dry land with this wham-bam chronicle of the Baja 1000 dirt race. Employing helmet and hood cams, Brown delivers the jolts and the bravado in heart-pumping bursts, including two souped-up pick-ups careering off each other and a roadside RV as they blow through the main drag of a Mexican village packed with locals and spectators at 140 mph. The Baja, which began in 1967, has involved as participants or observers such luminaries as James Garner, Steve McQueen and, at the time Brown was filming, Mario Andretti. One intrepid entrant even attempts the entire 1000 miles (15 to 30 hours) on his own as opposed to the usual team of riders/drivers. Brown gets it all down with pit-stop efficiency until the final lap, when the film rambles in on vapors. | 97m

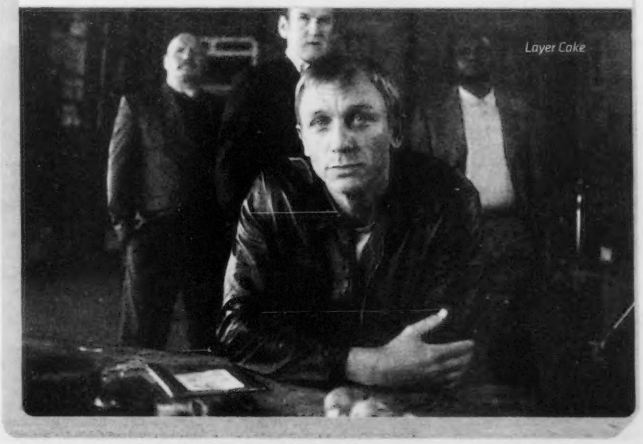
⊕⊕⊕ **LA PETITE LILI | FIRST RUN FEATURES |** Ubiquitous nymphet Ludivine Sagnier climbs out of her duds early in Claude Miller's film. She's a seemingly naive beauty who serves as a muse for the insufferably pretentious Julien (Robinson Stévenin). Her face is the only merit in Julien's earnest and horrible debut short, and the film's premiere at Julien's family estate does not go well: his aging actress mom (Nicole Garcia) bluntly dismisses it, and her latest boyfriend, Brice (Bernard Giraudeau), a successful hack director, shows more interest in Lili than in the film. Sound like a certain Chekhov play? Be patient – it actually comes to resemble more a story by Jorge Luis Borges (say, "Pierre Menard, Author of the Quixote"). It might not be a New Wave, but with its insistence that art prevails over experience, that film prevails over all, it's not old hat, either. | French | 104m

⊕⊕ **A LOT LIKE LOVE | BUENA VISTA |** Nigel Cole's formulaic romantic comedy kicks off with a-meet-cute scenario that seems a lot like assault and battery, as volatile punker Emily (Amanda Peet) trails dorky dreamer Oliver (Ashton Kutcher) into an airplane restroom and jumps his bones. He wants to be friends, she wants to spew barbed repartee, and the two part – only to bump into each other in New York City. On to seven *When Harry Met Sally*–esque years of banter, drunken hook-ups, and changing hairstyles during which predictable circumstance and folly thwart a relationship. Peet and Kutcher parlay their toothy prettiness into goofball charm (she sticks straws up her nose! he talks with a mouthful of Cheetos!), and they share an affable chemistry. But the story is tedious and far-fetched. | 97m

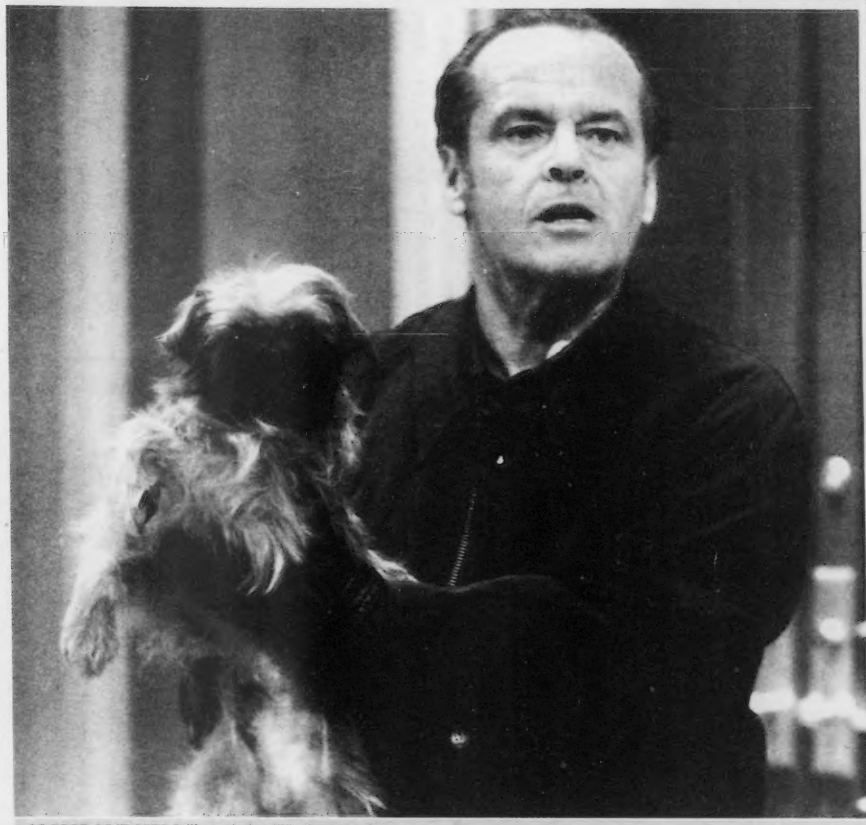
⊕⊖ **BEAUTY SHOP | MGM |** *Barbershop* for the ladies: the wacky characters are more female-centric, and the comedy is about breast implants and cheating men, though still with the token white stylist (Alicia Silverstone) struggling to fit in and still with financial troubles threatening to ruin everyone's good time. Kevin Bacon misses the mark as a rival salon owner, his performance nothing more than a bad accent wrapped in a too-tight shirt, but Queen Latifah as plucky new salon owner Gina carries the proceedings with laid-back ease, and director Bille Woodruff sprinkles a few good looking men into the mix, including Djimon Hounsou, to make for attractive backgrounds. Still, the film is too relaxed, like a saggy permanent. Predictable conflicts are resolved with minimal fuss, the plot twists and romantic entanglements are visible from a mile off, and no character strays from his or her prescribed role. | 105m

⊕⊖ **LAYER CAKE | SONY |** Matthew Vaughan's film aspires to the model of the British gangster films *Get Carter* and *The Long Good Friday*, but it's drawn more to the stylized contrivance that made *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* a hit – no surprise given that Vaughan produced *Barrels*. A nameless middleman (Daniel Craig) cuts drug deals between various London crime syndicates. He's a good-looking bloke adroit at navigating among businessmen, thugs, and sociopaths. He also wants out, but of course there's one final job, and the attendant onslaught of babes, thugs, treachery, and clichés. Many plot turns are obvious, despite the filmmaker's smugness; others just drop. Gritty? Yes, but only half-baked. The intriguing ensemble cast includes Colm Meaney and Michael Gambon. | 104m

⊕ **THE RING TWO | DREAMWORKS |** Directed by Hideo Nakata (creator of the Japanese-language *Ringu* and its sequel, the films that inspired Gore Verbinski's 2002 fright fest), this is a horribly inferior bastardization. The root of its evil lies within Ehren Kruger's screenplay, which discards the video-tape/phone-call gimmick that thrilled fans of *The Ring*. As Naomi Watts's Rachel adapts to small-town life, she's once again forced to protect son Aidan (David Dorfman) from the possessive advances of restless spirit Samara (Kelly Stables), who really just wants to be loved. Overloaded with unconvincing visual effects in place of psychological terror, this is a *Ring* best left unanswered. | 109m



Layer Cake



AS GOOD AS IT GETS Still pondering Jill's Oscar snub.

Consider how the opening 15 minutes, where Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) and Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) rescue Chancellor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid) from the hands of phlegmatic evildoer Count Dooku (Christopher Lee), reprises/prefigures the scene in *Return of the Jedi* where the unarmed Emperor invites Luke to indulge his anger and hatred and succumb to the Dark Side. Well-trained by his Jedi Masters, Luke declines; in *Revenge of the Sith*, however, a less disciplined and needier Anakin can't resist when Palpatine tells him to kill the helpless Count Dooku. And it's his fate that focuses the film. He disobeys the taboos imposed by his masters, falling in love with Padmé (Natalie Portman) and refusing to accept loss and death; the latter fear is what Palpatine exploits to seduce him. Unlike Anakin, but like Luke and Lucas himself, *Star Wars* fans will see that this vast, extravagant, gimcracky dream not only acts out their fears and desires but also reflects the world from which they try to flee. Maybe *Revenge of the Sith* is the best film in the series because it's the last, and the adventure of a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away returns, inevitably, to the here and now. | 140m | Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕ **SUPERCROSS | 2005 |** Stuntman tuned auteur Steve Boyum spins together motocross racing and sibling rivalry in this stock retread. The Carlyle brothers, K.C. (Steve Howey) and Trip (Mike Vogel), are Frick and Frack everywhere they go; Trip is the reckless and more talented of the two, but it's the cautious K.C. who lands the big corporate sponsor — though he's engaged merely an enforcer to protect the CEO's spoiled son. Chicks are in the mix too: the girlfriends, plucky fellow racer Piper (Cameron Richardson) and aspiring attorney Zoe (Sophia Bush), are strong, caring, and introspective. The themes about corporate greed and blood being thicker than money resonate, but that doesn't save the film from predictability and cliché. The only driving reason to see *Supercross* is Boyum's wham-bam footage of dirt bikes soaring through the air and slamming into the mud. | 92m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

T

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **2046 | 2004 |** In Wong Kar-wai's sequel of sorts to his 2000 film *In the Mood for Love*, Chow Mo-wan (Tony Leung Chiu-wai) has given up the Don Quixote of illusory ideals for the Don Juan of immediate gratification and discovered that neither self-denial nor self-indulgence makes a dent in the prison of time, space, and desire. To make ends meet, he serializes a story set in 2046, the year of Hong Kong's final reintegration into the mainland. It's more a place than a time, attainable by the futuristic bullet trains Wong renders in *Matrix*-like CGI. But 2046 is also a hotel room, the one where Mo-wan and Su Li-zhen enacted their non-affair in *Mood*. Mo-wan moves into the room next door and falls for Wang Jing Wen (Faye Wong), daughter of the hotel owner. His rendezvous with the prostitute Bai Ling (Ziyi Zhang) are jokingly but strictly monetary, until they're not. Then there's the gambler named Su Li-zhen (Gong Li) who bails him out when his luck runs out in Singapore. Mo-wan writes these characters into his novel, making them android attendants on the bullet train to the future. Perhaps it's not the love that's lost in *2046* but the moment, with the loser condemned to relive it forever. | Cantonese + Mandarin + Japanese | 129m | Kendall Square + Embassy

U

UNDISCOVERED | 2005 | That would be the aspiring model (Pell James) and the struggling musician (Steven Strait) who try to make it in LA and with each other. Ashlee Simpson and Carrie Fisher co-star; Meiert Avis (*Far from Home*) directs. | 97m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

V

⊕⊕ **VALIANT | 2005 |** The true story of the Allied forces' use of homing pigeons (and other animals) to deliver messages during WW2 is compelling, particularly since it offers yet another example of the havoc wreaked by war. Yet as a cutesy coming-of-age tale involving a pipsqueak pigeon (Ewan McGregor) who joins the Royal Homing Pigeon Service out of patriotic duty, *Valiant* is about as illuminating as *Heckle and Jeckle*. And even though director Gary Chapman passes on drama in favor of puns, there are moments, as when the pigeons try to escape the tumultuous English Channel, that might be too scary for his core audience of kids. Thanks to the dry-witted Ricky Gervais (*The Office*), whose ad libs give wings even to a crusty bird caged in a formulaic story, *Valiant* manages to hover just above the level of pigeon droppings. | 76m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

W

⊕⊕⊕ **WALK ON WATER | 2004 |** Eyal (Lior Ashkenazi) is a dry-eyed Mossad assassin sent after the grandson of a Nazi war criminal when Axel (Knut Berger) arrives in Israel to visit his sister Pia (Caroline Peters), who's renounced the family's Nazi past and is living on a kibbutz. By the time it's obvious even to Eyal that Axel is gay, he already likes the guy. The assignment takes him to Berlin, and what follows could have been like *Notorious* with the Ingrid Bergman character played by Claude Rains. Instead, director Eytan Fox (*Yossi & Jagger*) leaves questions of male bonding and macho violence hanging and brings us back to Pia, who's pining on the kibbutz because Israeli men show no emotion. Will Axel's gay eye set this Israeli guy straight? Although far from miraculous (the title refers to Jesus's testing of Peter), *Walk on Water* is a step in the right direction. | Hebrew + German + English | 104m | West Newton

⊕⊕⊕ **WAR OF THE WORLDS | 2005 |** H.G. Wells's 1898 novel warned of sprawling industrialization; Orson Welles's 1938 radio version panicked an Axis-anxious nation; George Pal's 1953 movie touched on Cold War nuclear fears. **Continued on p 14**

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CAPSULE REVIEWS

Film

Continued from p 13

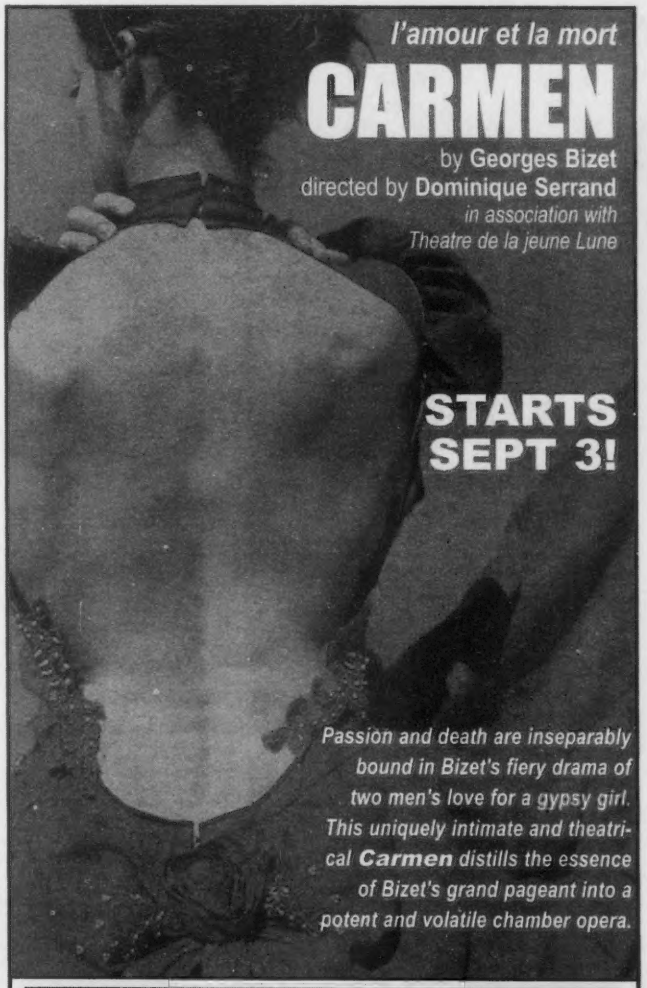
Steven Spielberg's post-September 11 *Worlds* gives us aliens who arise from sleeper cells to attack without warning, motive, explanation, or mercy. The aliens don't even show up right away, as Spielberg spends the first 20 minutes on character development. Tom Cruise's Ray Ferrier, a New Jersey prole, takes his two kids, nervous little Rachel (Dakota Fanning) and rebellious teen Robbie (Justin Chatwin), to Boston, where they hope to find Mary Ann (Miranda Otto), the kids' mother and Ray's ex-wife, still alive. As always, Spielberg creates some indelible and poetic images, but whereas some of his previous films have gone on one sequence too long, this one ends too abruptly, running out of juice just as the aliens do. | 117m | Boston Common + Somerville Theatre [Mon-Thurs] + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **WEDDING CRASHERS | 2005 |** John Beckwith (Owen Wilson) and Jeremy Grey (Vince Vaughn) are friends whose specialty is crashing nuptials and bedding the bridesmaids, and after David Dobkin's opening montage of the pair at their worst, they wind up at the wedding of Christina Cleary (Jennifer Alden), daughter of Treasury Secretary John Cleary (Christopher Walken, with few lines but a devastating stare). But though Jeremy quickly seduces Christina's sister Gloria (Isla Fisher), she's a wildcat who proves more than he can handle. And after John exchanges glances with the other sister, Claire (Rachel McAdams), she turns out to be the property of a boorish fiancé. Nothing daunted, John persuades Jeremy to come with him when they're invited to the Clearys' beachfront estate. The pair are spirited ciphers inventing themselves as they go along, the descendants of Jay Gatsby. Even without the film's heavy-handed homo-erotic suggestions, it's obvious that theirs is the perfect marriage. | 119m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Circle + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **THE WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL | 2003 |** This nimbly shot documentary about a flock of parrots and their loving chronicler shares the vibe and the beauty of its San Francisco setting. Filmmaker Judy Irving and caretaker Mark Bittner spin years of observation into mini-dramas about the green birds' individual personalities and relationships. The film is equally a portrait of Bittner, himself a rare bird, though probably a recognizable type to San Franciscans. No smotherer, he argues before a city council for leaving the birds alone. The emotional lives of parrots and Bittner alike are compelling, but some may quail before the poignancy on display. By the end, when Bittner recounts sensing gratitude from a dying bird named Tupelo, you'll either be deeply moved or wish Errol Morris had gotten here first. | 83m | West Newton

WITNESSES | 2003 | Gerald Peary's review on p 6 | Serbo-Croatian | 88m | MFA: Fri-Sun + Wed

THE WORLD | 2004 | Chris Fujiwara's review on p 5 | Mandarin + Shanxi + Russian | 143m | Kendall Square



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_BY AARON SOLOMON

Games

7

OUTLAW TENNIS

FOR XBOX AND PLAYSTATION 2
RATED M FOR MATURE
PUBLISHED BY GLOBAL STAR SOFTWARE
DEVELOPED BY JACK OF ALL GAMES

THE ACTUAL TENNIS trumps the outlaws, a pleasant surprise.

US open wide

Cheap, slutty, and Stephen Colbert

It's not easy being a buxom, scantily clad video-game character these days. As this month's *Grand Theft Auto*/"Hot Coffee" debacle has proved, nothing is too cheeky for Congress. And if you appear in a game rated anything higher than "T," you're probably its next target. Good thing, then, that the gang from *Outlaw Tennis* are just that, a band of outlaws who couldn't care less what the authorities have to say.

Unlike Jessica Rabbit, these girls *are* bad, and they're drawn that way too. Since busting onto the scene with 2002's *Outlaw Golf*, Summer and company have been featured in *Outlaw Volleyball* as well in G4 TV's "Video Game Vixens" beauty pageant. (They did manage to steer clear of the pictorial — or is that pixtorial? — in the August 2004 *Playboy*.) Now they bring their formidable assets, and other parts, to the clay, ice, and lava — yes, I said lava — courts of *Outlaw Tennis*, which has almost as much to do with tennis as with the outlaws themselves.

There is plenty of tennis, to be sure, as well as football, baseball, and even a little Ping-Pong — yes, I said Ping-Pong. These are three of the seven available Match Modes, each coming into play as part of the Outlaw "tour" or as simple exhibition matches, and they all make for some surprisingly deep gameplay.

On the unlockable-content front, there are more than 10 courts to discover, ranging from the pits of Hell to the streets of New York. (They're not the same thing?) And because this wouldn't be an *Outlaw* game without them, there are plenty of skimpy costumes and accessories with which to deck out your character. But beware: the lewdness knows no gender.

HOT TIP

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There's nothing here that'd be out of place on Spike TV or an episode of *Temptation Island*, but there are hints of something a little more sophisticated — if you can call allusions to *Point Break* and *Three Amigos!*, as well as veiled pokes at certain network announcers, sophisticated. These come in the form of Stephen Colbert's commentary, which riffs on his "This Week in God" routine from *The Daily Show* but with a few more boobie jokes than usual.

The most tiresome aspect of *Outlaw Tennis* turns out to be the outlaws themselves. At first it's fun to play dress-up with these dolls, but after two or three cut scenes, the novelty wears off. That the actual tennis trumps the outlaws was a pleasant surprise, as was the soundtrack, which, featuring Deen Ween and Queens of the Stone Age's Josh Homme, is better than any non–*Grand Theft Auto* soundtrack has the right to be. Although it's hard to top NES's relic *Tennis* for pure love-of-the-game enjoyment, the bonus content here — sure to give *Mario Kart 64* and *Super Monkey Ball* a run for their money in college dorm rooms — and the low price ($20) warrant running with these outlaws.

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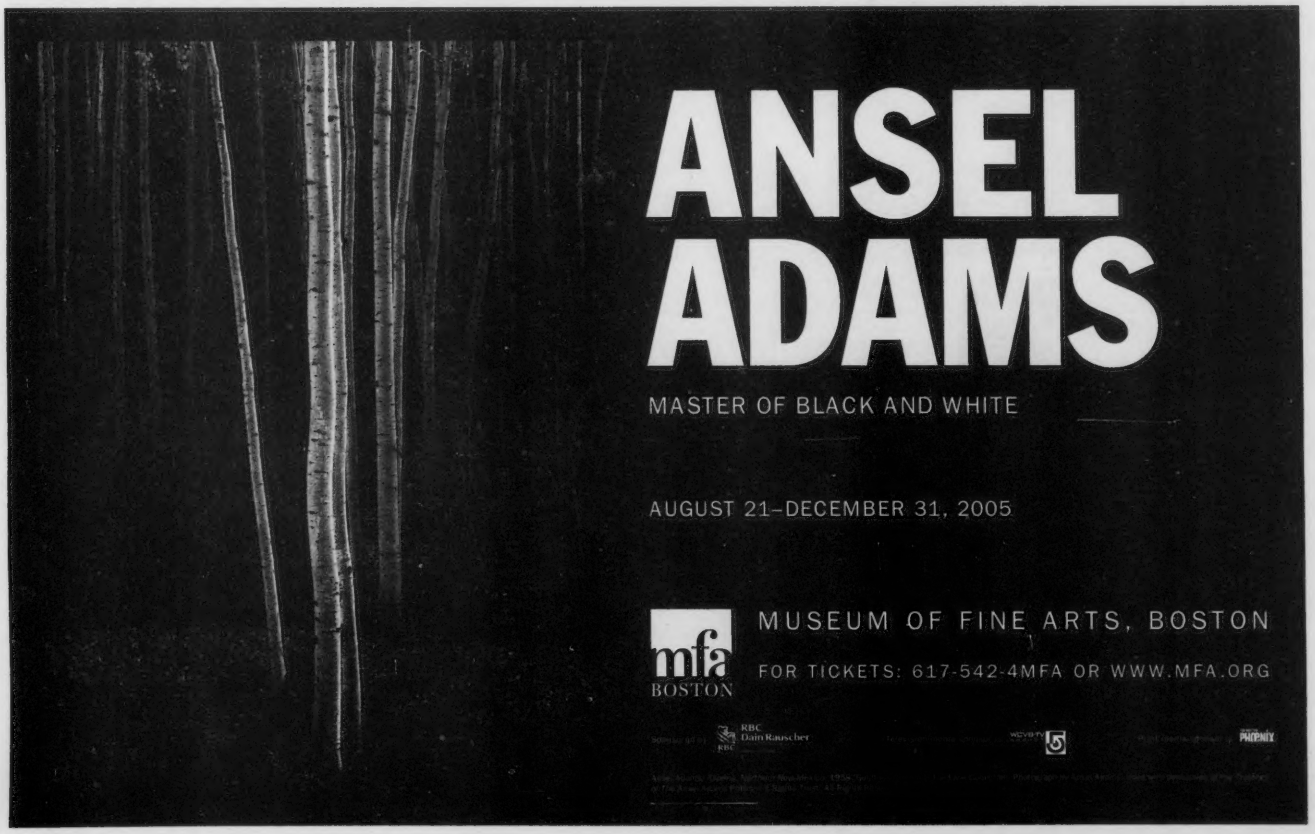

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THE PHOENIX

Theater

Bus Stop is not a great play, but it does offer all-American lonesomeness set against the vast Midwest.

Come back little diva

Souvenir in Stockbridge, *Bus Stop* in Williamstown

_BY CAROLYN CLAY

Two plays featuring chanteuses of a bygone America are on view in the Berkshires this week. The Berkshire Theatre Festival has Stephen Temperley's *Souvenir* (through September 3), a "play with music" that recalls the vanity career of soprano Florence Foster Jenkins, who in 1944 triumphed at Carnegie Hall despite not being able to carry a tune in a bucket. Mounting Jenkins's assaults on the Muse is Tony winner (for *The Phantom of the Opera*) Judy Kaye, whose own musical credentials range from Broadway to New York City Opera. Up the road, Williamstown Theatre Festival revives William Inge's 1955 *Bus Stop* (through August 28), whose tattered Kansas City nightclub singer, Cherie, was made famous in the 1956 film by Marilyn Monroe. Here she's undertaken by budding film star Elizabeth Banks, who brings to the role a similar mix of innocence and soft sex appeal.

In the hands of director Vivian Matalon, the irresistible Kaye, and actor/pianist Donald Corren, *Souvenir* is both a caterwauling delight and a tribute to undaunted delusion. The show, which enjoyed a successful Off Broadway run last winter and is headed for Broadway in November, is framed as a reminiscence by Madame J's aurally brave if eccentrically named long-time accompanist, Cosme McMoon, whom we meet 20 years after "the dire diva of din" has gone to her reward (just one month after the sold-out appearance at Carnegie Hall). He appears at a grand piano, before a squat blue chamber whose window glitters with a New York City skyline, offering an upbeat rendition of Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer's "One for My Baby (And One More for the Road)." He then proceeds to the start of Memory Lane to offer an amazed yet tender portrait of the wayward warbler who whacked her way, using her larynx as a machete, through such high hurdles of the repertoire as the Queen of the Night's Aria from Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and Adele's Laughing Song from Johann Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*.

In Temperley's fictionalization, McMoon, at first appalled by his proposed collaborator's wavering pitch, aberrant intonation, and complete lack of musicianship, comes to admire her "unique kind of sound" (second-raters, he notes, all sound alike) and the sheer scale of her delusion, which he likens to that of the Chrysler Building. As Daniel Dixon noted in a 1957 article about Jenkins in *Coronet* magazine, "It was self-deception carried to outlandish extremes — but it was harmless and gentle and, in its own weird way, magnificent." What's magnificent about *Souvenir*, which could have been just a campy exercise in making fun, is how it accords Jenkins a sureness and a single-mindedness that, though built on a foundation of bullheaded tone-deafness and sand, are indeed heroic.

And the genius of Judy Kaye is not that she manages to sing badly, ricocheting between car alarm and sick cow and using a technique she likens to jazz riffing while making all the wrong choices, but that she renders a Jenkins who is sublimely silly yet indomitable. (Yes, the singer does get a benedictive moment in which to show her own pipes to advantage.) Trotting on a series of chic period pumps, her hair perfectly marcelled, her solid figure erect in elegant matron wear, or strutting her musical stuff in a parade of hilarious get-ups by costume designer Tracy Christensen that includes a Mexican variation on the dirndl, a spangled green military uniform, and Jenkins's trademark "Angel of Inspiration" wings, Kaye presents a woman slightly dotty but dignified.

A hideous singer yet a font of on-stage joy, Kaye's Jenkins exudes the rapturous charisma that made the real Jenkins the darling of famous musicians, her fellow moneyed dowagers, and cognoscenti alike. And Corren's McMoon is a superb foil, whether making up to an insulted Jenkins with a variation on "Crazy Rhythm" or reacting to a particularly piercing coloratura trill as if knocked back from the piano by a Jedi laser. This may not be music to soothe the savage breast, but it abuses the ear while touching the heart.

Meanwhile, Williamstown Theatre Festival revives that arguably sappy artifact of mid-century Americana, *Bus Stop*, giving the highway-diner-set drama a fleet outing more reminiscent of a greyhound than a Greyhound. Director Will Frears has trimmed the three-act play so it can be performed without intermission, the breaks bridged by the Grand Ole Opry sounds of the Stanton Family Band, a four-person combo who comment on the action from a side balcony. And the director has assembled a fine cast that cuts through both the sentiment and the Wonder Bread whiteness of what goes on when the snow kicks up in Kansas and a (small) busload of passengers must pass some revelatory time at a diner presided over by free-wheeling owner Grace and bright-eyed high-school helper Elma.

Chief among the wayfarers are the self-dubbed Cherie, who was trying to escape an ardent cowboy when he abducted her and forced her onto a bus headed for his ranch in Montana and the altar, and her cocky pit bull of a suitor, 21-year-old rodeo rider Bo Decker. Also on board: Bo's guitar-picking cowboy guardian, Virgil; drunken English professor *manqué* Dr. Gerald Lyman; and amiable bus driver Carl, who aims to charm more from restless Grace than a sandwich. Keeping the stranded in line is that tough voice of reason and right Sheriff Will Masters, who's happy to wallop you with life's lessons if you don't want to swallow them with your coffee.

Bus Stop is not a great play, but it does offer a plaintive snapshot of all-American lonesomeness set against a backdrop of the vast Midwest. WTF specializes in revivals of such landmark American dramas, and it usually does them proud. Here, under huge letters that spell out DINER, the little greasy spoon (designed by Takeshi Kata) is a hardwood haven whose plate-glass windows reveal an endless vista of nothingness punctuated by swirling snow and the phone lines. Thrown together, the characters bristle with energy and naïveté, save for the rumpled Dr. Lyman, in Bill Camp's superbly nerdy and disheveled rendering an endearing lost soul spouting Shakespeare and cynical self-loathing.

Daniel Oreskes is a stony sheriff, John Douglas Thompson a playful Carl, Leon Addison Brown a temperate Virgil, and Elizabeth Marvel a frankly humane Grace. Laura Heisler's eager high-school hash slinger is a standout. Banks's Cherie, braving the elements in her threadbare strip of a stole, is a vulnerable creature, despite a few trips around the romantic block. And as Bo, Logan Marshall-Green (of *The OC*) is a firecracker in denim, practically exploding with cocksureness and childish frustration at not getting the chattel he wants. But even such a skilled cast can't make a strong case for *Bus Stop*, which mostly proves how much less hopeful a nation we've become since Inge pulled into his rest stop 50 years ago. ⊙

WAYWARD WARBLERS? Judy Kaye as Florence Foster Jenkins in *Souvenir*, Elizabeth Banks as Cherie in *Bus Stop*.

_COMPILED BY CAROLYN CLAY

Play by Play

ABYSSINIA | Stafford Arima is at the helm of this North Shore Music Theatre reprise of the powerful gospel musical with book by James Racheff and Ted Kociolek, lyrics by Racheff, and music by Kociolek. "Born during a terrifying tornado, Abyssinia Jackson is a young African-American woman blessed with an angelic voice and an amazing ability to heal. But when tragedy strikes, she loses faith — and begins a courageous journey of renewal and rediscovery." Fire struck the North Shore Music Theatre's Beverly home last month, so this show will be staged at the Shubert Theatre. | Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St, Boston | 800.447.7400 | Through September 11 | Curtain 7:30 pm Tues-Thurs [8 pm August 25] + 1:30 pm Wed | 8 pm Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $32-$62

AMOUR | Darko Tresnjak is at the helm of this Goodspeed Musicals production of a new musical in development adapted from Marcel Aymé's *Le passe-muraille*, with music by three-time Oscar winner Michel Legrand, French libretto by Didier van Cauwelaert, and English lyrics by Jeremy Sams. Set in 1950s Paris, it's about an unassuming civil servant who finds he has the ability to walk through walls. This gives him the courage to confess his love to a married woman whose husband is understandably affronted. "But how do you lock up a man who can simply slip away?" Musical direction is by Albin Konopka. | Norma Terris Theater, North Main St, Chester, CT | 860.873.8668 | Through September 4 | Curtain 2 + 7:30 pm Wed | 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8:30 pm Sat | 2 + 6:30 pm Sun | $42

ARCADIA | The outdoor Publick Theatre puts a sure foot forward with Tom Stoppard's dazzling 1993 comedy, which takes place on an English country estate in the early 19th century and the present day, addressing subjects as varied as chaos theory, literature, love, and landscape architecture while demonstrating the passion of intellect and the incompatibility of sex and determinism. Diego Arciniegas directs the very competent production, with nice performances by Susanne Nitter, Nigel Gore, and Lewis Wheeler in particular. The show continues in repertory with Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* throughout the summer. | Publick Theatre, 1400 Soldiers Field Rd, Brighton | 617.782.5425 | August 31–September 4 | Curtain 7:30 pm Wed-Thurs | 8 pm Fri-Sat | 7:30 pm Sun | $30; $25 seniors and students

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS | Russ Reyz directs Marc Brown's ambitious adaptation of the Jules Verne classic. Matthew Arkin, actor son of Alan, plays Phileas Fogg, "the Victorian-era traveler who tries to win a bet that he can circle the globe in a mere 80 days." Five other actors play everyone he meets. | Cape Playhouse, 820 Main St, Rte 6A, Dennis | 508.385.3911 or 877.385.3911 | Through August 27 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat + 2 pm Thurs | $25-$45

THE BALTIMORE WALTZ | Provincetown Theatre Company presents Paula Vogel's touching absurdist comedy, which she wrote as a tribute to her brother Carl, who died of AIDS in 1988. Patrick Falco directs the Obie-winning work, which depicts a whirlwind European tour by an elementary-school teacher who has acquired a mysterious disease from toilet seats; her brother Carl accompanies her as she searches for a cure. | Provincetown Theater, 238 Bradford St, Provincetown | 508.487.9793 | Through August 28 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sun | $18; $16 seniors, students, and PTC members

BLUE MAN GROUP | The Drama Desk Award–winning trio of cobalt-painted bald pates begin their delightful and deafening evening of anti-performance art beating drums that are also deep buckets of paint, so that sprays of color jump from the instruments like breaking surf, and end by engulfing the spectators in tangles of toilet paper. | Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St, Boston | 617.426.6912 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Thurs | 7 + 10 pm Fri | 4 + 7 + 10 pm Sat | 2 + 5 pm Sun | $46-$56; $21.75 obstructed-view seating, available at the box office and Boston day of performance

BORN AGAIN AGAIN | "Country-singing nymphomaniacal evangelist" Tammy Faye Starlite (the alter ego of comic actor Tammy Lang) brings her "ministry of 'faith' " to Provincetown, with a special appearance by a guest oracle and numbers like Starlite's hymn to involuntary motherhood "God Has Lodged a Tenant in My Uterus." Produced by Theatre Go Round and directed by Michael Schiralli, who also does the honors for Varla Jean Merman. | UU Meeting House Theatre, 236 Commercial St, Provincetown | 508.487.9793 | Through September 4 | Curtain 10 pm Thurs-Sun | $20

THE BOYFRIEND | Julie Andrews directs this Goodspeed Musicals production of the musical in which she made her 1954 Broadway debut. A "jazzy spoof of 1920s musical comedies," the Sandy Wilson show centers on an English heiress who falls for a delivery boy. The production comes to Boston's Wang Theatre in October. | Goodspeed Opera House, Rte 82, East Haddam, CT | 860.873.8668 | Through September 24 | Curtain 2 + 7:30 pm Wed | 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8:30 pm Sat | 2 + 6:30 pm Sun | $24-$53; $10 student rush

BUG | Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater co-artistic director Jeff Zinn is at the helm of Tracy (*Killer Joe*) Letts's Off Broadway hit. Set in an Oklahoma City motel room where a woman hiding out from her ex-con ex-husband hooks up with a mysterious stranger, it's "a hallucinatory tale of pests and paranoia that blends a touch of terror with a dash of comedy and a sprinkle of skin." Kate Budekke reprises her role from the Chicago premiere. | Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, next to town pier, Wellfleet | 508.349.WHAT | Through September 10 | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Fri | 4 pm [September 10] + 8 pm Sat | 4 pm Sun | $19-$25; $12 student rush

BUS STOP | Will Frears directs William Inge's 1955 classic about strangers stranded in the middle of the night. | Williamstown Theatre Festival mainstage, 1000 Main St, Rte 2, Williamstown | Through August 28 | Curtain 3 + 8 pm Thurs + 8 pm Fri | 4 + 8:30 pm Sat | 2 pm Sun | $20-$52 | Carolyn Clay's review on page 17

CARMEN | Minneapolis-based Theatre de la Jeune Lune once again collaborates with the American Repertory Theatre. | Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St, Cambridge | 617.547.8300 | September 3–October 8 | Curtain 7:30 pm Tues-Thurs [except September 15] | 8 pm Friday [except September 9] | 2 pm [October 1 and 8] or 8 pm [September 3, 10, 17, 24] Sat | 2 pm [September 4, 11, and 18] or 7:30 pm [September 25 and October 2] Sun | $12-$74 | Iris Fanger's preview above

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS | Publick Theatre artistic director Diego Arciniegas removes Shakespeare's early romp featuring two sets of twins and a chaos of mistaken identity to the mid-20th-century Italy of Vittorio De Sica, where smoldering guys in linen pants and shades give orders, jealous women in full skirts agitatedly smoke cigarettes, and Catholicism, lingering fascism, and the ghost of Sophia Loren are in the air. The enjoyable *al fresco* show, balm to a summer evening, is well acted if insufficiently antic. | Publick Theatre, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton | 617.782.5425 | Through September 10 | 7:30 pm Thurs | 8 pm Fri-Sat | 7:30 pm Sun [Through August 28 + September 7-10] | $30; $25 seniors and students

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) | Payomet Performing Arts Center in Truro reprises its hit 2003 production of Adam Long, Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield's first Reduced Shakespeare Company success. The show packs all of Shakespeare's plays into 90 crazy minutes that include the histories recast as a football game. | Payomet Tent, Rte 6, North Truro | 508.487.5400 | Through September 5 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 2 pm [September 3] + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm [September 4] + 8pm Sun | 2 pm Mon [September 5] | $20; $5 for children 12 and under

DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER | The Cape Playhouse concludes its 79th season with Marc Camoletti's farce, adapted by Robin Hawdon. James Brennan directs Dee Hoty, Michael Rupert, and Kevin (*Days of Our Lives*) Spirtas in a comedic mix of sex and cooking. | Cape Playhouse, 820 Main St, Rte 6A, Dennis | 877.385.3911 | August 29–September 10 | Curtain 8 pm Mon-Fri + 2 pm Wed-Thurs | 4 pm [September 3] + 8 pm Sat | $25-$45

THE DREAM EXPRESS | "Join Spin, his ex-wife Marlene, and their personal demons as they embark on *The Dream Express* — a metaphysical lounge tour to the end of the universe." Written and directed by three-time Obie winner Len Jenkin, with musical direction by John Kilgore, this Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater production of "the original outlaw lounge act," a compendium of songs and stories perceptive and profane, is set in an actual tavern. | Duck Creeke Tavern, 70 Main St, Wellfleet | 508.349.WHAT | Through August 31 | Curtain 10 pm Sun-Wed | $21-$25; $12 student rush

ELEGIES | Barrington Stage Company, which incubated composer William (*Falsettos*) Finn's award-winning Broadway musical *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, presents his clever and moving song cycle "celebrating the lives of people (and a handful of dogs) that have lent meaning to the writer's life." Rob Ruggiero directs. | Mahaiwe Theatre, Castle St opposite Town Hall, Great Barrington | 413.528.8888 | Through August 28 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs | 2 + 8 pm Fri | 8 pm Sat | 5 pm Sun | $30-$48

ELVIS — THE MURDER MYSTERY | An "interactive murder mystery about an Elvis-impersonator competition" that's afloat. | Boston Harbor Mystery Cruise, 1 Long Wharf, Boston | 781.784.7469 | Indefinitely. | Curtain 7:30 pm Fri-Sat | $59 dinner + show + cruise

THE FRANCO-AMERICAN CONNECTION | The Berkshire Theatre Festival offers a series of readings of new French and American plays. Included are French playwright Koffi Kwahule's *Misterioso-119*, a "chilling" work about a women's prison, and Marc Israel-Le Pelletier's *Bobby*, which "explores the politics of the death penalty in America, asking the question: What are the effects of this form of punishment for friends and relatives of both the victims and their perpetrators on death row?" | Berkshire Theatre Festival Unicorn Theatre, Main St, Stockbridge | 413.298.5576 | Through September 2 | Curtain 8 pm Mon-Fri | 2 + 8 pm Sat | $20, includes post-performance wine tasting and discussion

HELP ME HELP MYSELF: THE NEW YORK GUIDE TO LOVE, FAME, FORTUNE AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE EVER DREAMT OF IN 30 DAYS OR LESS | On the Leesh Productions offers this sneak preview of *Desperate Housewives* writer Jenna Bans's play, which "follows three young women as they navigate the Big City looking for (or trying to avoid) love, fortune, and inner peace." The show, which is directed by Alicia Arinella, opens at NYC's Looking Glass Theatre in November. | Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St, Boston | 212.591.2748 | August 27 | 8 pm Sat | $15

I'M NOT PAYING FOR THIS! | Fresh from her Sydney Opera House debut, Varla Jean Merman, the glamorous alter ego of actor Jeffery Roberson, takes you on a guided tour of the Seven Deadly Sins in her new show. "From the Garden of Eden to her own den of iniquity, who better to explore a Dante's Inferno of lust, gluttony, greed, envy, pride and anger than that award-winning, flame-tressed celebutante?" Prepare for over-the-top. | Post Office Cabaret, 303 Commercial St, Provincetown | 508.487.9793 | Through September 10 | Curtain 8:30 pm Thurs-Sun | $22.50

JIMMY TINGLE'S AMERICAN DREAM | Larry Arrick directs this latest outing by the Cambridge-bred political satirist described on CNN as "the Will Rogers of the 21st century." | Payomet Performing Arts Center in Truro, Payomet Tent, Rte 6 and Noons Hts Rd, North Truro | 508.487.5400 or 866.811.4111 | August 26–September 4 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sun | $20

JOEY AND MARIA'S COMEDY WEDDING | "One wedding that's had an unbelievable reception," the Italianate, audience-interactive nuptials are back. | Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St, Boston | Indefinitely | 800.944.JOEY | Curtain 7:30 pm Sat | $55, includes dinner catered by Italian Express

THE LAST FIVE YEARS | Sweet Apple Theatre bites into Tony winner (for *Parade*) Jason Robert Brown's musical chronicling the birth, life, and death of a relationship, with the man telling the story start to finish, the woman finish to start. They meet in the middle for the wedding. | Devanaghn Theatre in the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St, Boston | 866.811.4111 | Through August 28 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat | 7 pm Sun | $18

THE LEARNED LADIES OF PARK AVENUE | Hartford Stage artistic director Michael Wilson directs the world premiere of David Grimm's comedy, which is translated and "freely adapted" from Molière's *Les femmes savantes*. "Writer Grimm's commission from Hartford Stage was to bring Molière into Cole Porter's Jazz Age." | Hartford Stage, 50 Church St, Hartford, CT | 860.527.5151 | September 1–October 2 | Curtain 7:30 pm

BIZET BODIES

CARMEN TO HEAT UP THE ART

Dominique Serrand as Zuniga

"*Carmen* is the most-produced opera ever," says Dominique Serrand, co-artistic director of the Minneapolis-based Theatre de la Jeune Lune, "and that would have been the first reason for me not to do it. But when I looked at the text in French, it was so beautiful. I love the language."

Serrand has become practically a partner at the American Repertory Theatre. His *Carmen*, which premiered in Minneapolis in 2003, will run there September 3 through October 8 (in French with English surtitles), on the heels of last June's *Amerika* and the director's Elliot Norton Award–winning 2004 staging of Molière's *The Miser*.

Unlike full-flavored opera-house pageants, this chamber *Carmen* runs just over two hours. Serrand has made significant cuts in the number of performers and musicians, not to mention the score. Twin grand pianos stand in for a complete orchestra, sounding as if they were "dueling instruments for their percussive quality," the director says. But not to worry, Carmen's "Habanera" and Escamillo's "Toréador, en garde" remain intact.

Serrand has returned in spirit, he says, to the opera's 1875 Paris world premiere, when the singers spoke the lines that connect the now-familiar arias and melodies rather than performing them as recitative. "Bizet based his opera on the novel by Prosper Mérimée. I added some lines from Mérimée, to explain the characters and add some color."

Carmen has been recast for its transfer to Cambridge, with local singers replacing some of the ensemble and ART regular Thomas Derrah taking over Serrand's role of Zuniga. But Serrand's core group of singer actors, trained in Jeune Lune's signature style of emotion-drenched physicality, remain: Christina Baldwin as Carmen; her sister, Jennifer Baldwin Peden, as Micaela, who's in love with Don José; Bradley Greenwald as Don José; and Bill Murray as Escamillo. "When I first started to look for opera singers," Serrand points out, "I realized that they often had very little experience with the stage. So I started working with a specific group of singers whom I trained in moving and acting. It's still the same group." Serrand's acolytes leanred on their feet by presenting reduced versions of five Mozart operas before taking on *Carmen*.

Although a love triangle centers the action, Serrand believes *Carmen* is "about displacement on a simple emotional basis. Each of the characters is a foreigner: Carmen is a Gypsy; Don José is from the Basque country. I tried to make Carmen as human as possible, not the grand seductress. She wants to be a free woman in a society that doesn't allow it, where she must work in a menial job. Micaela is an orphan desperately in love with Don José. At the end, she becomes a widow of the man she did not marry."

_Iris Fanger

The American Repertory Theatre | *Carmen* | Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St, Cambridge | September 3–October 8 | $12-$74 | 617.547.8300 or www.amrep.org

Play by Play

Tues-Thurs + 2 pm Wed [September 21 and 28] | 8 pm Fri [7:30 pm September 9] | 2 pm [September 3 and October 1] + 8 pm Sat | 2 pm + 7:30 pm [September 4, 18, and 25] Sun | $22-$62

LIVING ROOM IN AFRICA | Daniel Goldstein, who helmed last spring's stylish Huntington Theatre Company *Falsettos*, is at the helm of a crackling production of young British playwright Bathsheba Doran's urgent new play, which was developed at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Conference in 2004 and is on its way to New York. A British art dealer and somewhat unstable poet have come to Botswana to build an art gallery with money from the West, only to discover they're at the epicenter of the AIDS crisis. What we can, and should, do about this is the question the play explores. | Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St, Gloucester | 978.281.4433 | Through August 28 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat | 5 pm Sun | $30; $20 seniors and students

LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT | Elliot Norton Award winner Eric C. Engel is at the helm of this revival of Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer-winning autobiographical masterpiece, in which the four tormented Tyrones (read O'Neills) "struggle with demons, dreams, and addictions." The production boasts the powerful pairing of Paul O'Brien and Sandra Shipley as the elder Tyrones. | Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St, Gloucester | 978.281.4433 | August 31–September 18 | Curtain 7:30 pm Wed-Sat | 5 pm Sun | $30; $20 seniors and students.

MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL | Jeanie Linders's hit Off Broadway musical, which "relyricizes" tunes from the '60s and '70s to create a parodic paean to a familiar checklist of après-40 concerns of the distaff set, is another critic-proof show that nonetheless takes the easy way out at every opportunity. Still, the Boston cast is zippy, and a few of the sight gags are great. Just don't go expecting *The Vagina Monologues*. | Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St, Boston | 800.447.7400 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Fri | 2 + 5 pm Sat-Sun | $42.50; $38.25 for seniors and "Girls' Night Out" groups of 10 or more; $35 for all tickets through September 4

MURDER AT PROM '89 | An "interactive murder mystery set in a 1980s high-school prom." With killer clothes and hairdos. | Mystery Café Dinner Theater, 290 Congress St, Boston | 781.784.7469 | Indefinitely | Curtain 7:30 pm Fri-Sat | $45, dinner and show

MURDER AT THE COCONUT CABANA | Sway Mambo Interactive Theater & Party Productions unveils this interactive murder-mystery dinner-theater piece by Jeffrey P. Landry. It's set on a fictional Caribbean island that an evil banker is attempting to buy for revenue. | Tremont Playhouse in the Tremont Hotel, 275 Tremont St, Boston | 866.468.7619 | Indefinitely | Curtain 7 pm Fri | $55 includes show + live music + dancing + dinner

NEWSICAL THE MUSICAL | Rick Crom's pop-media satire, which was nominated for two Drama Desk Awards, "is a throwback to the kind of political satire on stage that was once as prevalent as it is in film and television today." The show "plucks its material from the wealth of current events" and features "updated songs and material that changes with the news." Donna Drake directs and choreographs, with musical direction by Ed Goldschneider. | Provincetown Theater, 238 Bradford St, Provincetown | 508.487.9793 | Through September 4 | Curtain 8 pm Tues-Fri | 7 + 10 pm Sat | 8 pm Sun | $31 in advance; $36 at the door

PLUM PUDDING | Elliot Norton Award-winning favorite Paula Plum serves up her delicious collection of disparate monologues, which includes Theresa Rebeck's new *Art Appreciation* (which was written for Plum) as well as Alan Bennett's *Bed Among the Lentils* (from *Talking Heads*) and Keith Curren's *Sidekick*. | Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St, Gloucester | 978.281.4433 | Through August 28 | Curtain 4 pm Sat + 2 pm Sun | $30; $20 for seniors and students

ROMEO AND JULIET | Pastimes Interactive Theater presents a free outdoor staging of Shakespeare's tragedy of teen love. | American Legion Park, 249 Broadway, Revere | 781.853.0583 | August 26-28 | Curtain 6 pm | Free and open to the public

SEE ROCK CITY | Miniature Theatre of Chester unveils the world premiere of Arlene Hutton's play, a sequel to her *Last Train to Nibroc*, which was an MTC hit in 2001. "Raleigh and May, having just returned from their honeymoon, must now navigate a tricky strait that includes the in-laws, the hardships of World War II in rural Kentucky, their livelihoods, and even their life together." | Chester Town Hall, Middlefield St off Rte 20, Chester | 413.354.7771 | Through August 29 | Curtain 8 pm Wed-Sat + 2 pm Thurs | 2 pm Sun | $20-$25; $10 students

SHAKESPEARE & COMPANY | The Lenox-based Shakespeare & Company opens its season with a comedy by the Bard in its Founders' Theatre and two newer works performed in the salon theater of the Spring Lawn manse. In the Founders' Theatre: Daniela Varon directs a smart production of Shakespeare's battle of the sexes, **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW**. Adding a Judi Dench-worthy surprise at the end, Varon paints Kate and Petruchio's journey from war to peace as a joint negotiation with a sexist system. The colorful production is set in Italy in the 1590s, with the play within the play performed by a versatile band of traveling players. Rocco Sisto is a strapping and amiable, if "half-lunatic," Petruchio, Celia Madeoy a formidable Kate. In rep through September 3. | Also in the Founders' Theatre, artistic director Tina Packer helms a vigorous and intelligent production of the rarely staged history **KING JOHN**, Shakespeare's play about the flawed and corrupt king who signed the Magna Carta. Allyn Burrows is an able John: pasty, scathing, and antic. And Peter Macon makes the most of the flamboyant warrior known as the Bastard. In rep through September 3. | Also in the Founders' Theatre, on September 4, a **STUDIO FESTIVAL OF PLAYS**: "An all-day, all-night festival of five different compelling plays presented as readings or staged readings by Company artists." | In the Spring Lawn Theatre: artistic director Tina Packer helms a well-acted production of **ICE GLEN**, Berkshires playwright Joan (*Off the Map*) Ackermann's new romantic comedy, which was written for the company and the space. Set in a fraying Berkshires "cottage" in 1920, the play centers on an eccentric and intensely private poet and the *Atlantic Monthly* editor who is determined to publish her poems whether she likes it or not. A conflicted valentine to the Berkshires, the play treats of nature and its effect on human intercourse and asks the question, "Who owns art, and is it permissible to hoard it?" In rep through September 4. | Also in the Spring Lawn Theatre: **THE WHARTON ONE-ACTS**. This year, Dennis Krausnick adapts Edith Wharton's sly 1904 comedy of manners *The Mission of Jane*, which stretches over 15 years and chronicles the gradual coming together of an estranged if wealthy New York couple as they conspire to survive their "inexorable" adoptive daughter, and *The Promise*, which is adapted from *Les metteurs en scene*, about an American woman in partnership (and in love) with a penniless French aristocrat, with whom she arranges marriages between wealthy Americans and impoverished French aristocrats. Eleanor Holdridge directs the skilled Jason Asprey and Corinna May on the double bill, of which *The Mission of Jane* is the more delicious. In rep through September 4. | Also in the Spring Lawn Theatre: Martin Moran performs his Obie-winning one-person play **THE TRICKY PART**, "a riveting journey through the complexities of Catholicism, sexuality, and human trespass." In repertory through September 4. | On the tented Rose Footprint: Shakespeare & Young Company, the troupe's apprentice company, struts its stuff August 26 at 5 pm | Shakespeare & Company's Founders' and Spring Lawn Theatres, 70 Kemble St, Lenox | 413.637.3353 | Through September 4 [in repertory] | Performance times vary | $10-$51 Founders' | $30-$49 Spring Lawn; $15 Studio Festival; discounts for seniors and students; $10 rush one hour before curtain for patrons 23 and under

SHEAR MADNESS | The dramatis personae of the audience-participation whodunit (which is now the longest-running non-musical in American theater history, having run 25 years in Boston) continue to comb Newbury Street for the murderer of a classical pianist who lived over the unisex hair salon where the show is set. | Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton St, Boston | 617.426.5225 | Indefinitely | Curtain 8 pm Tues-Fri | 6:30 + 9:30 pm Sat | 3 + 7:30 pm Sun | $34

SOUVENIR | Tony winner Judy Kaye stars in this Berkshire Theatre Festival staging of Stephen Temperley's bittersweet comedy with music. | BTF mainstage, Main St, Stockbridge | 413.298.5576 | Through September 3 | Curtain 8 pm Mon-Fri + 2 pm Thurs | 2 + 8 pm Sat | $42-$58 | Carolyn Clay's review on page 17

THE SPITFIRE GRILL | Scott Storr and Robert R. Troie team up to direct James Valcq & Fred Alley's musical based on the Lee David Zlotoff film about a young female parolee from West Virginia who wanders into a small town in Wisconsin where she gets a job at the local eatery and changes things. Musical direction is by Storr. | Cape Rep Theatre, north side of Rte 6A, East Brewster | 508.896.1888 | Through August 27 | 8 pm Thurs-Sat | $22; $12 for 21 and under

THE STORY | Zeitgeist Stage Company opens its season with Tracey Scott Wilson's award-winning topical drama, directed by David J. Miller. "Yvonne Robinson, an ambitious African-American reporter, investigates the brutal murder of a white man in a black neighborhood. She cracks the case with a sensational scoop — but is her story true?" | Boston Center for the Arts' BCA Plaza Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St, Boston | 617.933.8600 | September 2-24 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Fri | 4 + 8 pm Sat | 7 pm Sun | $30; $25 students, seniors, September 2-4 previews

SWEENEY TODD | MIT Musical Theatre Guild takes on Stephen Sondheim's Tony-winning 1979 musical, with book by Hugh Wheeler, about the demon barber of Fleet Street and his gastronomically sickening revenge on a world that done him wrong. | Kresge Little Theater, 48 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge | 617.253.6294 | September 2-17 | Curtain 8 pm Thurs-Sat | 2 pm Sun [September 4] | $10; $8 MIT community, seniors, and other students; $6 MIT/Wellesley students; $3 new MIT students with temporary ID

THE VERY SAD TALE OF THE LATE MR. STILTSKIN | In this WHAT for Kids! production, writer/director Stephen Russell follows in Sondheim tradition to discover "what really happens after ' . . . and they all lived happily ever after'?" In this case the fairy tale being probed is that of elfin alchemist Rumplestiltskin. "Using a kind of *Rashomon* approach, the play uncovers what transpires after all the straw is spun into gold, Queen Marcella's spies are unleashed, and the little troll bursts into a million pieces." | Wellfleet Harbor Tent on Rte 6, next to post office, Wellfleet | 508.349.9428 | Through September 1 | Curtain 7:30 pm Mon-Thurs | $9

WOMEN AND THE SEA | M. Lynda Robinson directs Shelley Berc & Anita Stewart's drama in which 17 women, played by six actresses, "tell their real-life stories of living and working in the fishing industry in coastal Maine." An Actors Equity Code production. | West End Theater, 1 Washington St, Gloucester | 978.281.0680 | Through August 27 | Curtain 8 pm Fri-Sat | Donation $15

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Art

Themes aside, the show is memorable and enjoyable and easy to digest.

Typically atypical

Is there another side of Ansel Adams?

BY CLIF GARBODEN

"ANSEL ADAMS"

AT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON. THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

A successful retrospective art exhibit serves as a discussion of an artist's creative output — a effort to put a body of work in a sometimes-too-neat context. When it comes to a genre giant whose photography has been shown as much as Ansel Adams's has, you have to ask whether there's anything left to discuss. Surely, after major Adams exhibits at the MFA, the Museum of Modern Art, and elsewhere, his life story is well known. His central role in turning photography from an art-world stepchild into a full-fledged artistic medium has long been secured. And the inescapable topic of his place in the tradition of Western-landscape photography, harking back to the photographic survey photos of the late 1800s, has been exhausted.

So, armed with the world's largest privately held collection of Adams prints, what's the MFA to do? For "Ansel Adams," an exhibit of 180 Adams prints on display through December 31, the museum chose to put Adams in not one but two historical contexts: the history of photography and 20th-century history. The latter tack is uninspired and likely to be missed by most visitors. The exhibit is hung in roughly chronological order, which is wonderful in terms of visual continuity, but the "Ansel Adams Timeline," which intercuts events from the artist's personal and professional life with events he and his photographs had nothing to do with (the passage of the 19th Amendment; the attack on Pearl Harbor; the creation of the Peace Corps), doesn't add up to much.

The exhibit's primary thrust — Adams's work as a reflection of photography's technical and æsthetic trajectory through the 1900s — is, though hardly pat, far more successful. And it gives the museum a context for displaying some atypical and seldom-seen Adams photographs. The show begins with a soft-focus 1919 box-camera landscape, *Wind, Juniper Tree, Yosemite National Park*, printed in the soft-focus Pictorial style of the day, which sought to use the camera to replicate pre-existing mediums, such as oil painting or etchings. It ends with large-format, high-resolution prints of a housing development outside San Francisco (taken about 1966) and an aerial view of a freeway interchange in Los Angeles (1967). For Adams (1902–1984), the latter two photographs fall into the *atypical* category — that is, they are *not* of a mountain or a rock or a tree. As such, they represent more the type of manmade subjects being photographed in the urbanized 1960s.

The implication — and there's a chronological spectrum of atypical shots in this show to back the notion — is that Adams's career not only spanned but mirrored 20th-century American photography, from the primitive to the "contemporary." Throughout, the exhibit's atypical shots suggest that he was always pushing the envelope and thinking ahead of his time. Well, perhaps. But aside from his association with the Polaroid Corporation (alas, an evolutionary dead end in photo history), we don't think of Adams as an artist ever in search of reinvention. On the contrary, his reputation is that of a technical conservative who used large-format view cameras on location long into the era of professional hand-held cameras and invented a too elaborate science of photographic exposure (the Zone System). In the end, that affably stodgy reputation prevails, and the gorgeous "typical" results of his stringent approach, also represented at the MFA, testify to its validity. That he occasionally departed from his trademark æsthetic or choice of subject hardly makes him a faddist or a relentless innovator. As a charter member of the renegade Group f64 movement that championed high-resolution "pure" photography's ability to interpret as well as record experience, and as a founding force behind the creation of a photography department at New York's Museum of Modern Art, he was among the medium's true visionaries and revolutionaries. Which may not be an entirely new way of looking at Adams, but it works.

Themes aside, "Ansel Adams" is a wonderful retrospective that showcases even some unexpected typical Adams photographs — a enthralling and evocative natural-grotto scene titled *Merced River, Cliffs of Cathedral Rocks, Autumn* (1939) — along with the most famous of his works, the big, fragile, and beautiful *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico* (1941). It also includes a rare display of all five prints from his abstract (he would have called it "extracted") *Surf Sequence* (1940).

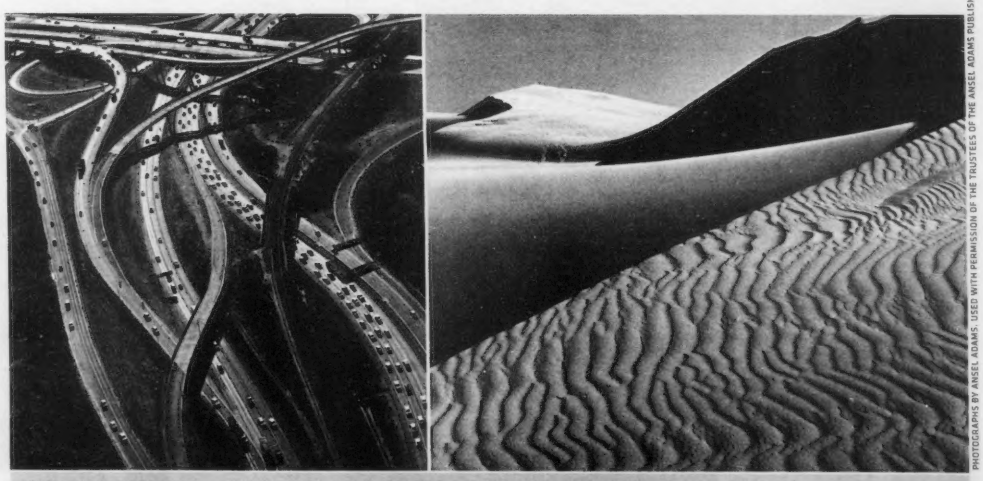
And the atypical inclusions, whatever they prove, are indeed treats. Among them we find a texture-rich "posed" still life, *Rose and Driftwood* (*circa* 1932), some early shots of Pueblo Indian dancers, and some character studies taken in the obscure ramshackle town of Hornitos, California, which Adams visited frequently. There are also informal portraits of Alfred Stieglitz (who gave Adams his first New York exhibition, in 1936), Edward Weston, and others. A standout is a rare 1937 33mm candid of artist Georgia O'Keeffe. In the frame, she seems to be sharing some wry joke with Orville Cox, the head wrangler at a New Mexico ranch where she kept a studio. (The picture, taken during a tour of the Southwest that Adams made with O'Keeffe and some patrons in 1937, was shown with an exhibit of Adams proofs from that excursion at the Fitchburg Art Museum in 2002.)

The MFA show also displays some novelty Adams items, including a 1969 Hills Brothers Coffee can with an Adams view of Yosemite printed over the entire surface. Less peculiar, but more impressive, are three Japanese-style folding screens decorated with super-large-format Adams nature prints. Little seems to be known about these unusual, but beautiful, side projects. Adams manufactured his first decorative screen in 1936 as part of a Chicago photo exhibit and is thought to have made only 11 to 14 more. In addition to the three-paneled screens *Grass and Pool* (1948) and *Leaves, Owens Valley, California* (1950), the show includes a meticulously executed two-sided, four-panel screen, *Sonoma County Hills* and *Oak Tree, Rain* (1969).

Not all the atypical works are that extreme. In the 1930s, especially the early 1930s, before Adams devoted himself to the landscape motif that would make him famous, he made some interesting photographs you wouldn't recognize as his. *Fence Near Tomales Bay* (1936) is an intriguingly detailed texture study of a decaying wood fence looming before a soft farm-country landscape. *Sutro Gardens, San Francisco* (1933) focuses on a fractured statue overlooking Pacific breakers. Both these compositions depend on a layered depth that Adams's later large-format perspective would often flatten. *Political Circus* (1932), a light-and-shadow study of political posters and Ringling Bros. posters plastered on a corrugated wall, is a brilliant photograph, no matter who took it. Some other early works, the Pueblo Indian dancers, for example, are more interesting because it was Adams who took them than they are as photographs.

The prints in "Ansel Adams" come from the collection of the late William H. Lane and his widow, Saundra B. Lane. The Lanes were Adams's friends as well as his steady customers, and the eccentric side of their Adams trove is, one suspects, the result of their close relationship with the photographer. This is the show Saundra Lane "always wanted to do." It is memorable and enjoyable and, unlike some mammoth Adams retrospectives, easy to digest. Does it really redefine Ansel Adams? That's going a bit far, but it does cast him and his career in an unexpected light — proving that there is still something to say about a familiar legend.

Non-member adult tickets to "Ansel Adams" are $22 and entitle the holder to a return visit to the MFA's permanent collection, good for 10 days.



MAN AND NATURE *Freeway Interchange, Los Angeles* (1967); *Dunes, Oceano, California* (1963).

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Art

GALLERIES

Admission to the following galleries is free, unless otherwise noted. In addition to the hours listed here, many galleries are open by appointment. Galleries are in Boston, except where indicated otherwise. Galleries with photo exhibitions are listed under Photography.

NEWBURY STREET BACK BAY

ALIANZA GALLERY | 617.262.2385 | 154 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Aug 31: "Tea and Fantasy"
ALPHA GALLERY | 617.536.4465 | 14 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5:30 pm; Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through Sept 7: "Summer Selections"
ARDEN GALLERY | 617.247.0610 | 129 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Sept 1-29: "Robert Jackson: New Works"
L'ATTITUDE GALLERY | 617.927.4400 | 218 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Oct 2: "Vistas Revisited: New Work by Russ Vogt and Karen Ehart"
CASSAVA BOBA LOUNGE | 617.266.5397 | 1076 Boylston St, Boston | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: "Robyn Grybowski: Abstract Oils"
CHASE GALLERY | 617.859.7222 | 129 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm | Through Aug 29: work by Ben Long, Bernd Haussmann, Wayne McDowell, and others
CHILDS GALLERY | 617.266.1108 | 169 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 9 am–6 pm; Mon and Sat 10 am–5 pm | Through Sept 3: "A Century of Still Life" | "Letterio Calapai: Woodcuts Old and New" | "Henry Pitz Goes to the Circus"
COPLEY SOCIETY OF BOSTON | 617.536.5049 | 158 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10:30 am–5:30 pm | Aug 25-27: "Kirsten A. Malone: Retrospective" | Reception Aug 25 6-8 pm
ECLIPSE GALLERY | 617.247.6730 | 164 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 9 am–6 pm | Through Aug 27: "Todd Fairchild: Happiness" | Aug 30-Sept 24: "New Abstract Paintings by Jeffrey Ringdahl"
HARCUS GALLERY | 617.451.3221 | 6 Melrose St, Boston | Call for hours | Ongoing: Boston Group Artists show
HOWARD YEZERSKI GALLERY | 617.262.0550 | 14 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm | Through Sept 6: "Some Color"
INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY | 617.375.0076 | 205 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–6 pm | Through Sept 5: "Summer Games!"
JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY | 617.437.1518 | 130 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat am-6 pm | Through Aug 31: "Director's Pick: Group Show"
JUST AFRICA GALLERY | 617.536.1648 | 201 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Ongoing: contemporary stone sculptures by major and emerging artists from Zimbabwe, with works by Henry Munyaradzi and Gladman Zinyeka.
KELLY BARRETTE FINE ART | 617.266.2475 | 129 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Ongoing: revolving exhibit featuring works by Lisa Houck, Nancy Wagner, and others
KIDDER SMITH GALLERY | 617.424.6900 | 131 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 11 am–5:30 pm | Through Sept 3: "Phil Bower: New Paintings"
MARTIN LAWRENCE GALLERIES | 617.360.4800 | 77 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–9 pm; Sun 11 am–7 pm | Ongoing: works by Picasso, Chagall, Warhol, Lichtenstein, and more
MPG CONTEMPORARY | 617.357.8881 | 450 Harrison Ave, Suite 315, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5 pm; Sun-Mon 1-5 pm | Through Sept 3: "Signe: The Art of Repurposing Textiles"
NEWBURY FINE ARTS | 617.536.0210 | 29 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Aug 29: "The Art of Rolling Stones' Ronnie Wood"
NIELSEN GALLERY | 617.266.4835 | 179 Newbury St, Boston | Wed-Fri 10 am–5 pm | Through Aug 31: "Summer Invitational"
PUCKER GALLERY | 617.267.9473 | 171 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through Sept 4: "Fine Choices 2005: Selections by Each Artist"
RICHARDSON-CLARKE GALLERY | 617.266.3321 | 38 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Fri 10 am–5 pm; Sat 11 am–5 pm | Ongoing: American & European 19th & 20th Century Paintings & Drawings.
ST. GEORGE GALLERY | 617.450.0321 | 245 Newbury St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5:30 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Aug 31: "Convergence" | Sept 1-30: "Luminescence"
THOMAS KINKADE NEWBURY STREET GALLERY | 866.639.2879 | 221 Newbury St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–8 pm; Sun noon–6 pm | Features over 100 limited edition canvas lithographs by Thomas Kinkade

SOUTH END

ARS LIBRI | 617.357.4212 | 500 Harrison Ave, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–6 pm; Sat 11 am–5 pm | Permanent collection features rare and scholarly books in the fine arts
BF ANNEX | 617.451.3344 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Fri 9:30 am–5:30 pm; Sat 10 am–5 pm | Through Aug 27: "Summer Group Show" | Through Sept 30: "Bob Oppenheim"
BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY | 617.482.7781 | 486 Harrison Ave, Boston | By appointment only | Through Aug 31: "Summer Group Show"
EQUATOR GALLERY | 857.540.9236 | 450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston | Mon-Fri 10 am–6 pm; Sat noon–5 pm | Ongoing: "Latin American Fine Art"
GENOVESE/SULLIVAN GALLERY | 617.426.9738 | 450 Harrison Ave, Suite 47, Boston | Tues-Sat 10:30 am–5:30 pm | Through Sept 4: "Summer Group Show"
HAMILL GALLERY OF AFRICAN ART | 617.442.8204 | 2164 Washington St, Boston | Thurs-Sat noon–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Oct 9: "African Selections 6"
LUSH LOUNGE | 617.247.9001 | 535 Columbus Ave, Boston | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: "Night Scenes of Boston by Julie Simpkins"
MARIO DIACONO GALLERY | 617.560.1608 | 500 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through Aug 31: "Shelley Reed: A Golden Age (After Melchior d'Hondecoeter)"
STUDIO SOTO | 617.461.7686 | 63 Melcher St, Boston | Thurs-Fri 6-9 pm; Sat 2-5 pm | Through Aug 28: "Impossible Geographies 01: Memory" by Petra Gemeinboeck

DOWNTOWN

ARTEMIS GALLERY | 617.338.4122 | 92 South St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–6 pm; extended hours to 8 pm on Thurs | Ongoing: 18th and 19th century Chinese furniture | Now on view: "New Chinese Works"; works from Quin Feng's "Original Sound" series, and "lyrical" scrolls by Fei Yang
BOSTON CITY HALL | Scollay Square Gallery | 617.635.3245 | City Hall Plaza, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Through Sept 1: "375 Views of Boston"
COLONY GROUP | 617.723.8200 | 2 Atlantic Ave, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–6 pm | Sept 1-30: "Brigid McCabe: Paintings"
FORT POINT ARTS COMMUNITY GALLERY | 617.423.4299 | 300 Summer St, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–9 pm; Sat noon–5 pm | Through Sept 10: "Transitional: Work by Dean DeCocker, Ian Kennelly"
ONYX HOTEL | 617.557.9955 | 155 Portland St, Boston | Daily 9 am–8 pm | Through Feb 1: "Fashion: Style Throughout History"
SPACE 200 | 617.269.5767 | Marketplace Center, 200 State St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–6 pm | Through Sept 3: "Animal Crackers"

OTHER BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

ARTISTS-AT-LARGE GALLERY | 617.276.3223 | 6 Webster St, Hyde Park | Tues-Thurs 3-6 pm; Sat noon–6 pm | Through Aug 31: "Havana in Hyde Park III"
AXIOM, INC. | 617.513.6375 | 14 Harvard Ave, Allston | Sat-Sun noon–6 pm | Through Aug 26: "Mass Media"
CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD | 617.266.5152 | Charlestown | Daily noon–5 pm | Through Oct 10: "The Secret Ark of Icon by Jerry Beck"
JOHN RAIMONDI GALLERY | 617.241.1165 | 80 City Square, Charlestown | By appointment only | Through Sept 16: "26 Paintings x 26 Painters: Selections from the John Raimondi Collection"

CAMBRIDGE SOMERVILLE WATERTOWN

ALL ASIA CAFE | 617.497.1544 | 354 Mass Ave, Cambridge. | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: "Shuddemup Collective ArtSlap"
ART ATTACK | 617.441.3833 | 108 Beacon St, Somerville | Call for hours | Aug 29-Sept 23: "Facials: The Window to the Soul by Sydney Hardin" | Reception Aug 29 6-9 pm
BAAK GALLERY | 617.354.0407 | 35A Brattle St, Cambridge | Mon-Sat, 10:30 am–8 pm; Sun, 1-6 pm | Through Sept 7: "Summer Art Group Show" | Reception Aug 25 6-8 pm
CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY | City Hall Annex | 617.349.4380 | 344 Broadway, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 8:30 am–5 pm; until 8 pm on Thurs | Through Sept 9: "Open: Paul Ramirez Jones"
CLUB PASSIM | 617.492.7679 | 47 Palmer St, Harvard Square, Cambridge | Daily 11 am–6 pm | Through Sept 24: "Hung: works by Arturo Vega, Bunni, David Fair, Jad Fair, Dee Dee Ramone, Godlis, Jayne County, John Holmstrom, John Nikolai, Jon Langford, Jon Strymish, Knox, Niagara"
MIDDLE EAST | 617.864.EAST | 472 Mass Ave, Cambridge. | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: "Dan Blakeslee Poster Expo" | "Yulia Dumov: Kaleidoscope: Etchings and Acrylics from Russia with Love"
MOBILIA GALLERY | 617.876.2109 | 358 Huron Ave, Cambridge | Tues-Fri 11 am–6 pm; Sat 10 am–5 pm | Ongoing: sculptural jewelry by various artists
NAVE GALLERY | 617.625.4823 | Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse Blvd, Somerville | Thurs 4-8 pm; Sat 1-5 pm | Through Sept 15: "Reassembled: Pieces of Me through Mixed Media"
OUT OF THE BLUE GALLERY | 617.354.5287 | 106 Prospect St, Cambridge. | Daily noon–8 pm | Ongoing: "Local Cambridge Artists" | "The Private Collection of the Late Margarete Koehler-Bittkow"
REGATTABAR | 617.395.7757 | Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Cambridge. | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Meet Miles Davis . . . the Artist: Paintings by Miles Davis"
1369 COFFEEHOUSE CENTRAL SQUARE | 617.576.4600 | 757 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Daily 8 am–10 pm | Through Aug 31: "David Buxton: Mandalas & Element"
1369 COFFEEHOUSE INMAN SQUARE | 617.576.1369 | 1369 Cambridge St, Cambridge | Daily 7 am–10 pm | Through Aug 31: "Linda Anthony: Textile Art"
UNIVERSITY PLACE GALLERY | Cambridge Art Association | 617.876.0246 | 124 Mt. Auburn St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 9 am–6 pm; Sat 9 am–1 pm | Through Sept 6: "Art Fair: Works $200 and Under"

BROOKLINE/NEWTON

BROOKLINE ARTS CENTER | 617.566.5715 | 86 Monmouth St, Brookline | Mon-Fri 9 am–4 pm | Aug 29-Oct 5: "Tradition and Innovation"
GATEWAY GALLERY | 617.734.1577 | 62 Harvard St, Brookline | Mon-Fri 9 am–4:30 pm; Sat 11 am–6 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Aug 27: "The Art of Gabrielle Sichel"
MATT MURPHY'S PUB | 617.232.0188 | 14 Harvard St, Brookline | Call for hours | Through Oct 11: "Eleven: A Pub Records Photo Show and Audio Exhibition"
NEW ART CENTER IN NEWTON | 617.964.3424 | 61 Washington Park, Newtonville | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through Aug 26: "Accumulating Gestures: Ree Katrak"
NEWTON FREE LIBRARY | 617.796.1360 | 330 Homer St, Newton | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri 9 am–6 pm; Sat 9 am–5 pm | Through Aug 30: "Barbara Bartlett: Circle Dancing" | "Judith Ferrara: Works on Paper"

SUBURBS: SOUTH

GALLERY X | 508.992.2675 | 169 William St, New Bedford | Wed-Sun 11 am–3 pm | Through Aug 28: "Public Hanging"
SOUTH SHORE ART CENTER | 781.383.2787 | 119 Ripley Rd, Cohasset | Mon-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Through Sept 4: "Blue Ribbon Members' Show"

SUBURBS: NORTH

ARTSPACE@16 | 781.321.8058 | 16 Princeton St, Malden | Call for hours | Through Aug 27: "Playscape: Exploring the Landscape of Play and Games"
BIGZANDA GALLERY | 978.281.5824 | 211 East Main St, Gloucester | Call for hours | Through Sept 21: "Jon Sarkin: Recent Works"
BRUSH ART GALLERY | 978.459.7819 | 256 Market St, Lowell | Tues-Sat 11 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Through Sept 11: "Imagine: Brush Resident Artist's Exhibition"
GALANT GALLERY | 978.745.1001 | 197 Derby St, Salem | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Mary Rogers & Joel Levine: Where the Land Meets the Sea"
GALLERY OF MODERN ART | 781.631.3204 | 154 Washington St, Marblehead | Thurs 1:30-5 pm; Fri, Sun-Tues noon–5 pm; Sat noon–6 pm | Ongoing: "Connections: Past, Present and Future," works by Bernd Haussmann and Suzanne Ulrich
JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE GALLERY | 781.648.3322 | 9 Mystic St, Arlington | Mon-Fri noon–4 pm | Through Aug 28: "Lauren M. Geraghty: Serenity"
LYNNARTS | 781.598.5244 | 25 Exchange St, Lynn | Mon-Fri 10 am–3 pm | Through Sept 16: "Women To Be: Self Portraits from RAW Arts"
MARBLEHEAD ARTS ASSOCIATION | 781.631.2608 | 8 Hooper St, Marblehead | Tues-Sat noon–4 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through Aug 28: work by Cathy Schaefer, Marcia A. Christensen, Michael and Elizabeth Haley
NEWBURYPORT ART ASSOCIATION | 978.465.8769 | 65 Water St, Newburyport | Mon-Sat 11 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Sept 1-7: "Brush, Camera, Landscape" | Reception Sept 1 7-9 pm
119 GALLERY | 978.452.8138 | 119 Chelmsford St, Lowell | Tues-Sat 1-5 pm | Through Sept 30: "Bebe Beard: Screenings"

SUBURBS: WEST

JACOB'S PILLOW | 413.637.1322 | George Carter Rd, Becket | Call for hours | Through Aug 28: "Masters of Movement: Portraits of America's Great Choreographers by Rose Eichenbaum" | "Lost, Found, Restored"

CAPE COD

234 GALLERY HANNAH | 508.349.9884 | 234 Main St, Wellfleet | Call for hours | Through Aug 25: "David Phillips: Barnacles, Bricks, Bronze, and Stone"
ALBERT MEROLA GALLERY | 508.487.4424 | 424 Commercial St, Provincetown | Call for hours | Through Sept 1: "Jack Pierson: Provincetown"
ARTSTRAND | 508.487.1153 | 53 Bradford St, Provincetown | Daily noon–9 pm | Aug 26-Sept 14: work by Breon Dunigan, Irene Lipton, Tabitha Vevers | Reception Aug 26 6-9 pm
BERTA WALKER GALLERY | 508.487.6411 | 208 Bradford St, Provincetown | Daily 11 am–4 pm | Aug 26-Sept 11: work by Thomas McCanna, Polly Burnell, Nicholas Kahn/Richard Selesnick | Reception Aug 24 7-9 pm
DNA GALLERY | 508.487.7700 | 288 Bradford St, Provincetown | Daily 11 am–7 pm | Through Sept 5: "Sight-Specific"
FINE ARTS WORK CENTER | 508.487.9960 | 24 Pearl St, Provincetown | Mon-Fri 10 am–5 pm | Through Sept 2: work by Paul Emory | Reception Aug 26 6-8 pm
LARRY COLLINS FINE ART | 508.487.6600 | 145 Commercial S., #2, Provincetown | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: works by George H. Seeley
LYMAN-EYER GALLERY | 508.487.3937 | 349 Commercial St, Provincetown | Tues-Fri 1-6 pm; Sat 11 am–7 pm; Sun 1-4 pm | Through Aug 25: work by Robert M. Adamcik, Gerald Mocarsky, David Addison Small | Aug. 26-Sept 1: work by Eric Gibbons, Christian Kozaki
RICE/POLAK GALLERY | 508.487.1052 | 430 Commercial St, Provincetown | Daily 11 am–11 pm | Through Aug 25: work by Silvina Mizrahi, Bernd Haussmann, Suzanne Howes-Stevens | Aug 26-Sept 8: work by Linda Touby, David Jones, Robert Birbeck
ROBYN WATSON GALLERY | 508.487.3511 | 432 Commercial St, Provincetown | Daily 11 am–11 pm | Ongoing: "Standing On the Shoulders of Giants: Artists from the Outer Cape's Past"

MUSEUMS

AMERICAN TEXTILE HISTORY MUSEUM | 978.441.0400 | 491 Dutton St, Lowell | Tues-Fri 9 am–4 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $6, $4 for seniors, students, and ages 6-16, free for ages 6 and under | The Museum houses the nation's largest collection of artifacts and documents relating to America's textile manufacture | Through Sept 11: "Batik from Courtyards and Palaces: The Rudolf Smend Collection" | "Batik Fashion/American Style"
ARMENIAN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF AMERICA | 617.926.2562 | 65 Main St, Watertown | Fri, Sun, Tues, 1-5 pm; Tues 7-9 pm | Admission $2 | Ongoing: "The Armenian Genocide: In Memoriam"; "Armenian Musical Traditions"; "The Bedoukian Family Collection"; "Moses Hadji Gulesian: An Armenian Visionary"
ART COMPLEX MUSEUM | 781.934.6634 | 189 Alden St, Duxbury | Wed-Sun 1-4 pm | Free | Permanent collection features Shaker furniture, prints, American paintings, and Japanese art | Through Aug 28: "Complex Conversation: Liz Haywood-Sullivan and Gail Boyajian" | Through Sept 11: "Shape of Tea"
BOSTON BEER MUSEUM AND VISITORS' CENTER | 617.522.9080 | 30 Germania St, Jamaica Plain | Tours Thurs-Fri 2 pm; Sat noon, 1, 2 pm | Admission $2 | View two centuries of beer memorabilia and learn about the brewing process
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY | 617.536.5400 | Copley Square, Boston | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri-Sat 9 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Art and Architecture tours offered Mon 2:30 pm; Tues, Thurs 6 pm; Fri-Sat 11 am; Sun 2 pm | Through Oct 27: "Words of Thunder: The Life and Times of William Lloyd Garrison" – Deferrari Hall | x 2336 | Ongoing: "We Bostonians: Intersecting Spiritual Journeys"
CAPE COD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY | 800.896.3867 | 869 Rte 6A, Brewster | Mon-Sat 9:30 am–4:30 pm; Sun, 11 am–4:30 pm | Admission $5, $2 for children | The Museum runs programs, walks, classes, and field schools on its three nature trails through woodlands, salt marsh, unspoiled beach, and Cape Cod's largest herring run. Indoor exhibits represent the Cape's native surroundings, from reptiles and insects to shells, minerals, and fossils, and include both the Clarence Hay Library for natural history information and

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Art

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an on-site archaeology lab. Ongoing: "The Cape Takes Shape"; "What About Whales?"

CAPE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 508.385.4477 | Cape Playhouse, Rte 6A, Dennis Village | Tues-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7, free for ages 16 and under and on Sat before 1 pm | The permanent collection features works by Ross Moffett, Arthur Diehl, William Paxton, Arnold Geissbuhler, Oliver Newberry Chaffee, and Sig Purwin

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM | 617.727.9268 | 220 Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm; Sat 9 am–3 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "Archaeology of the Central Artery: Highway to the Past" | Through June, 2006: "Le Grand Derangement: The Acadian Exile in Massachusetts, 1755-1766"

ERIC CARLE MUSEUM OF PICTURE BOOK ART | 413.658.1100 | 125 West Bay Rd, Amherst | Tues-Sat 10 am–4 pm; Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $4, $2 for children under 18 | Features picture book art from around the world | Through Nov 6: "Painter and Poet: The Wonderful World of Ashley Bryan"

FITCHBURG ART MUSEUM | 978.345.4207 | 185 Elm St, Fitchburg | Tues-Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $7, $5 for students, seniors; free for children 12 and under | Through Sept 4: "70th Regional Exhibition of Art and Craft"

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO | 617.541.LION | 1 Franklin Park Rd, Boston | Daily, 10 am–5 pm | Admission $9.50, $8 for seniors, $5 for ages 2-15, plus $1 for admission to Butterfly Landing | Home to over 150 species of mostly endangered or threatened animals including snow leopards, "Giraffe Savannah"; "Kalahari Kingdom"; "Butterfly Landing"; "Tropical Forest"; "Australian Outback Trail"; and "Bongo Congo" featuring bongo antelope, zebras, ostrich, ibex, auodad sheep and vultures

FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM | 508.588.6000 | 455 Oak St, Brockton | Daily, 10 am–5 pm | Admission $5, $3 for seniors and students, free for children under 12 | Permanent collection features over 4,000 pieces of 19th and 20th century American art and crafts | Through Aug 28: "Trashformations East" | "Michael James: Studio Quilts 1977-Present" | Through Oct 10: "Built Books" | Through Oct 16: "Ricky Bernstein: Kitchen Dreams"

HARRISON GRAY OTIS HOUSE | 617.227.3956 | 141 Cambridge St, Boston | Wed-Sun 11 am–4:30 pm | Admission $8, $7 for seniors, $2.50 for children | Designed by Charles Bulfinch in 1796 and restored in the 1970's, the grand mansion provides insight into the social, business, and family life of the American elite in the New Republic | Guided Tours of the house are Wed-Sun 11 am–4 pm on the hour and half hour (all visitation is guided)

HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES | 978.744.0991 | 54 Turner St, Salem | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $8, $7 for seniors, $6 for ages 6-17, free for ages 5 and under | The House of the Seven Gables, the inspiration for Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel, is the oldest 17th-century mansion remaining in New England. Furnishings include furniture and artifacts spanning three centuries, including Hawthorne memorabilia. The grounds also contain Hawthorne's birthplace, a 19th-century counting house, period gardens, and a visitor center with interactive video, orientation programs, and garden cafe | Currently on view: "Digging Up the Past: 330 Years of Salem's History at the House of the Seven Gables"; "Images of the Seven Gables: Paintings, Prints, and Photographs of Salem's Most Illuminated Home"

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 617.266.5152 | 955 Boylston St, Boston | Tues-Wed, Fri noon–5 pm; Thurs noon–9 pm; Sat-Sun 11 am–5 pm | Admission $7, $5 for seniors and students, free for children under 12, free after 5 pm on Thurs | Established in 1936 as the first non-collecting contemporary art institution in the U.S. | Through Sept 5: "Getting Emotional" | "Momentum 4: Roe Ethridge"

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM | 617.566.1401 | 280 The Fenway, Boston | Tues-Sun 11 am–5 pm | Admission $10 ($11 on Sat-Sun), $7 for seniors, $5 for students with ID, free for ages 18 and under | The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler | Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 pm | Through Aug 28: "Stray Dogs: Danijel Zezelj"

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM | 617.514.1600 | Morrissey Blvd, Columbia Point, Boston | Daily, 9 am–5 pm | Admission $10, $8 for students, seniors, $7 for ages 13-17, free for ages 12 and under | Exhibitions portraying the life, leadership, and legacy of President Kennedy through memorabilia, video presentations, and settings. Ongoing: "Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy"; "Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy: First Lady"; "John Glenn and the Space Race"; "The Cuban Missile Crisis"; "The Nixon v. Kennedy Presidential Race"; "The Struggle for Civil Rights"; "Mrs. Kennedy's Tour of the White House"; "The Kennedy Family;" "Jacqueline Kennedy Travels Abroad" | Through Nov 13 2005: "Presents for a President and First Lady" | Through Spring 2006: "JFK in World War II"

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE | 617.566.7937 | 83 Beals St, Brookline | Wed-Sun 10 am–4:30 pm | Admission $3, free for ages 16 and under | President Kennedy (born in 1917) and his family lived in this restored nine-room house until 1927. It was the first home shared by the president's father and mother, Joseph P. and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, and re-creates the social and political beginnings of one of the world's most prominent families

LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE | 617.876.4491 | 105 Brattle St, Cambridge | Wed-Sun 10 am–4:30 pm | Admission $3, free for 15 and younger | Built in 1759, this Georgian mansion is where George Washington planned the siege on Boston during the Revolutionary War and later served as home to poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Ranger-guided tours throughout the day

LONGYEAR MUSEUM | 800.277.8943 | 1125 Boylston St, Rte 9, Brookline | Mon, Wed-Sat, 10 am–4 pm; Sun, 1-4 pm | Free admission | Museum exhibits explore the life of Christian Science founder Mary Baker Eddy through artifacts, manuscripts, books, and the biographical history of early workers in the Christian Science Church circa 1910. Located on 8 acres including flower gardens, a fountain, pool, and statues. Now open: "Mary Baker Eddy: A Spiritual Journey"

LORING-GREENOUGH HOUSE | 617.524.3158 | 12 South St, Jamaica Plain | Open for tours Tues, Sat, 10 am–noon | Donation $3 | A pre-Revolutionary house on the National Register of Historic Places decorated in period furnishings, costumes, and objets d'art

MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY | 617.450.7000 | 200 Mass Ave, Boston | Tues-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $5, $3 for students, seniors, children | Reflect in the Hall of Ideas, explore goals in the Quest Gallery, learn how a newspaper is put together in the Monitor Gallery, plus the famous Mapparium

MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 413.664.4481 | 87 Marshall St, North Adams | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10, $8 for students, $4 for ages 6-16, free for children under 6 | Ongoing: "Joseph Beuys: Lightning with Stag in Its Glare"; "Outrageous Supercharge: Hand Painted Movie Posters from Ghana"; "Natalie Jeremijenko: Tree Logic"; "Sound Art at MASS MoCA" | Through Spring 2005: "Cai Guo Qiang: Inopportune."

MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY | 617.742.1854 | 46 Joy St, Boston | Mon-Sat 10 am–4 pm | Free admission | Collection includes documents, artifacts, and art works pertaining to the African American experience in New England. Includes the African Meeting House, the oldest standing black church in America; and the Abeil Smith School, Boston's first public school for Black children and an early home of the Abolitionist movement Through Dec 31: "Words of Thunder: William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition"

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 617.267.9300 | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | Sat-Sun 10 am–4:45 pm; Mon-Tues 10 am–4:45 pm; Wed-Fri 10 am–9:45 pm (Only West Wing open Thurs-Fri after 5 pm) | Admission $15, $13 for students with college ID and seniors, free for ages 17 and under during non-school hours | Mon-Fri: introductory walks through all collections 10:30 am, 3 pm | "Art of Asia Walks" 11 am | "Art of Europe Walks" 11:30 am | "Art of the Americas Walks" 1:30 pm | "Art of Egypt and the Classical World Walks" 2 pm | Introductory walk also offered Wed 6:15 pm, Sat-Sun 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm |

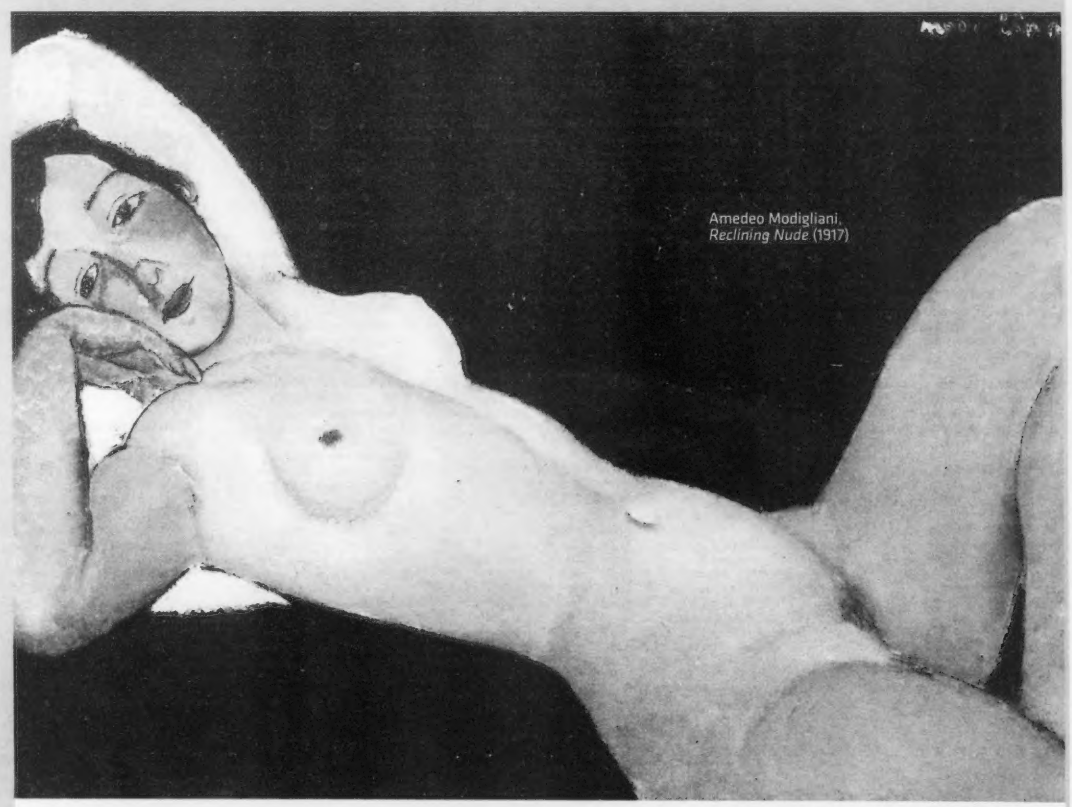
– Exhibitions: Through Sept 26: "Lethal Elegance: The Art of Samurai Sword Fittings" | Through Jan 5: "Sounds of the Silk Road: Musical Instruments of Asia" | Through Jan 8: "American West: Dust and Dream" | Through March 28: "A Much Recorded War: The Russo-Japanese War in History and Imagery" | Through Dec 31: "Ansel Adams" | Aug 31-Nov 13: "Things I Love: The Many Collections of William I. Koch"

– Gallery lectures are free with museum admission | Thurs 11 am "Highlights of the Egyptian Collection" Sun at 2 pm "Images of Eating and Drinking in America" Wed at 6 pm "Images of the Sea in European and American Art"

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE | 617.723.2500 | Science Park, Boston | Sat-Thurs 9 am–7 pm; Fri, 9 am–9 pm | Admission $13, $11 for seniors, $10 for ages 3-11 | The Museum features the Theater of Electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily, noon, 2 pm; Fri 7 pm) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits | Ongoing: "A Bird's World"; "Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic"; "Current Science & Technology Center"; "Journey into Amazing Caves"; "Natural Mysteries"; "Cahners ComputerPlace"; "The Virtual Fish Tank"; "The Light House: Beaming, Bouncing, and Bending Light"; "Messages"; "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion"; "Human Body Connection"; "The Computing Revolution" | Through Sept. 10: "Brain: The World Inside Your Head"

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION | 617.522.6547 | Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St, Brookline | Tues-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $5, $3 for sen-

SEE POWER



Amedeo Modigliani, *Reclining Nude* (1917)

How to top Ralph Lauren's cars at the MFA? Maybe with Bill Koch's yachts. Two of them, *America*[3] and *Il Moro di Venezia* (the Koch-piloted winner and the Koch-purchased loser from the 1992 America's Cup), will be anchored on the museum's front lawn, and inside you'll be able to see more than 100 works – everything from paintings by Monet and Modigliani to boat models and Native American objects and firearms that once belonged to Jesse James, Bob Dalton, Bat Masterson, and Buffalo Bill – in "Things I Love: The Many Collections of William I. Koch," which opens Wednesday, August 31 and runs through November 13. No word yet on whether you'll be able to climb into one of those yachts and spin the tiller. The MFA's at 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.267.9300.

iors, students, and ages 6-16 | Exhibits focus on the automobile and its role in American society | Ongoing: "New England Paves the Way"
NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME | 413.781.6500 | 1150 West Columbus Ave, Springfield | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10, $6 for youth 7 to 14, children free | A 48,000 square foot, three-level museum highlighting all levels of the game, featuring a virtual-reality game, interactive video monitors, a movie theater, hoop shoot-out, and historic memorabilia | Ongoing: "Freedom To Play: The Life & Times of Basketball's African-American Pioneers"
NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS | 617.442.8614 | 300 Walnut Ave, Roxbury | Tues-Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $4, $3 for students and seniors | Ongoing: "Aspelta: A Nubian King's Burial Chamber"
NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM | 781.861.6559 | 33 Marrett Rd, Lexington | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "Lexington Alarm'd," an introduction to Colonial Lexington exploring the town's connection to the Revolutionary War; "Made in Massachusetts;" "To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community"; "A Glimpse of Boston Theater: 1850-1903"
NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM | 617.973.5200 | Central Wharf, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun, 9 am–6 pm | Admission $13.50, $11.50 for seniors, $7.50 for ages 3-11, free for children under 3 | More than 70 exhibits featuring aquatic animals from Boston Harbor to the Amazon River | Includes the 200,000-gallon giant ocean tank, with sharks, moray eels, 600 pound sea turtles, and hundreds of other Caribbean creatures | Pick up a hermit crab or watch vets care for animals in the Aquarium Medical Center
– Now open: "Living Links: Choices for Survival" with baby sea turtles, poison arrow frogs, and rare tropical fish that shows how people affect aquatic life both positively and negatively around the world | Through Dec 2005: "Amazing Jellies"
NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM | 413.298.4100 | 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge | Mon-Fri 10 am–4 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $12, free for ages 18 and under when accompanied by an adult | The Museum houses Rockwell's studio, and the world's largest collection of his paintings | Ongoing: "My Adventures as an Illustrator" | Through Oct 31: "The Art of the *New Yorker*: Eighty Years in the Vanguard" | "Windblown: Contemporary American Weathervanes"
OLD NORTH CHURCH | 617.523.6676 | 193 Salem St, Boston | Daily, 9 am–5 pm | Admission $8, $5 for ages 15 and under | Built in 1723, Boston's oldest church continues as an active Episcopal Church with services every Sunday
OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE | 617.482.6439 | 310 Washington St, Boston | Daily 10 am–4 pm | Admission $5, $4 for students and seniors, $1 for children | A museum and historic site built in 1729 as a Puritan house of worship, the Meeting House served as the location for meetings of Colonial revolutionaries leading up to the war for independence | Ongoing: "Voices of Protest"; "Behind the Scaffolding"; "If These Walls Could Speak"
OLD STATE HOUSE | 617.720.1713 | 206 Washington St, Boston | Daily 9 am–5 pm | Admission $5, $4 for students and seniors, $1 for ages 6-18 | Ongoing exhibits detail the history of Boston during the Revolution, the history of firefighting, the John Hancock family, inns and taverns, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Also administers a Boston reference library and photographic resource center at 15 State St | Now open: "Where in the World Does Boston Come From?" | Ongoing: "A History of Boston through Fire"; "The Boston Massacre: A Sound and Light Show"
ORCHARD HOUSE/HOME OF THE ALCOTTS | 978.369.4118 | 399 Lexington Rd, Concord | Mon-Fri 11 am–3 pm; Sat 10 am–4:30 pm; Sun, 1-4:30 pm | Admission $6, $5 for students and seniors, $4 for ages 6-17, free for ages 5 and under | Home of the Alcotts and the site where Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* in 1868 | Features personal objects and furnishings that belonged to the Alcott family, the Concord School of Philosophy, and historical programs and exhibitions. The museum offers a variety of guided "living history" tours
PAUL REVERE HOUSE | 617.523.2338 | 19 North Square, Boston | Tues-Sun 9:30 am–5:15 pm | Admission $2.50, $2 for students and seniors, $1 for children | Restored 17th-century house owned by Revere during the Revolutionary War. Next door is the Pierce/Hichborn House, a Georgian brick building built circa 1711
PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM | 978.745.9500 | East India Square, Liberty & Essex Sts, Salem | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $13, $11 for seniors, $9 for students, free for ages 16 and under | The recently transformed Peabody Essex Museum presents art and culture from New England and around the world. The museum's collections showcase a spectrum of American art and architecture and Asian, Asian Export, Native American, African, Oceanic, Maritime, and Photography collections. The museum campus features numerous parks, period gardens, and 24 historic properties, including Yin Yu Tang, a 200-year old house that is the only example of Chinese domestic architecture on display in the United States | Ongoing: "All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists" | "Exposing the Source: The Paintings of Nalini Malani" | Through Sept 5: "The Art of Shopping in China" | Through Sept 18: "In Nature's Company" | Through Oct 16: "Kingdom of Siam: Art & Culture of Thailand, 1350-1800"
REVOLVING MUSEUM | 978.937.2787 | 22 Shattuck St, Lowell | Thurs-Sun noon–4 pm | Through Aug 31: "Signs of Life: A Contemporary Cave Environment"
SKYWALK OBSERVATORY | 617.859.0648 | Prudential Building, 50th Floor, 800 Boylston St, Boston | Daily 10 am–10 pm | Ongoing: "Wings Over Boston: Aerial Video Tour of the City"; "Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum"; "Ted Williams Exhibition"; "The Sights and Sounds of Boston"; "Famous Bostonians"; "Boston Map"
SPORTS MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND AT THE FLEETCENTER | 617.624.1234 | Causeway St, Boston | Tues-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $5, $4 for seniors and ages 6-17, free for ages 6 and under | A showcase for Boston sports history with exhibits dedicated to the Celtics, Bruins, Boston Garden, and the FleetCenter | Currently on view: "Ted Williams: An American Hero"
STERLING AND FRANCINE CLARK ART INSTITUTE | 413.458.2303 | 225 South St, Williamstown | Open Daily, 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10, free for 18 and under | Museum's collection centers on French Impressionist paintings, including over 30 by Renoir, plus American works by Homer, Sargent, Cassatt, and Remington, as well as extensive collections of prints, drawings, silver, and sculpture | Ongoing: "The Clark: Celebrating 50 Years of Art in Nature" | Through Sept 5: "Jacques-Louis David: Empire to Exile" | Through Oct 9: "Little Women, Little Men: Folk Art Portraits of Children from the Fenimore Art Museum" | Through May 2006: "50 Favorites"
STONE PARK ZOO | 781.438.5100 | 149 Pond St, Stoneham | Mon-Fri 10 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am-6 pm | Admission $6, $5 for seniors, $4 for children | Home to over nine animal exhibits including a herd of bison, a colony of flamingoes, and spider monkeys | Ongoing: "Snowy Owl Creek"; "Touchable Barnyard"
USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM | 617.426.1812 | Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Free admission | Ongoing: "Around the World in *Old Ironsides*," chronicling the Constitution's diplomatic mission, and "A Look Below the Waterline: Preserving Old Ironsides" which explores past and current restorations of the boat
WADSWORTH ATHENEUM | 860.278.2670 | 600 Main St, Hartford, CT | Wed-Fri 11 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $10, $8 for seniors, $5 for students, free for ages 12 and under | Collections of American and European paintings and sculpture, as well as glass, silver, Wallace Nutting furniture, and Meissen porcelain. The second floor of the Morgan Building features the J. Pierpont Morgan collection of American decorative arts | Ongoing: "We Also Served: African-Americans in the U.S. Military – Selections from the John H. Motley Collection" | Through Spring 2005: "Ellen Carey/Matrix 153" | Through Oct 9: "Romance to Rock and Roll: A Fashionable Reprise" | Through May 21, 2006: "Following the North Star: From Civil War to Civil Rights"
WORCESTER ART MUSEUM | 508.799.4406 | 55 Salisbury St, Worcester | Wed, Fri, Sun, 11 am–5 pm; Thurs, 11 am–8 pm; Sat, 10 am–5 pm | Admission $8, $6 for seniors and students, free for ages 17 and under, admission free Sat 10 am–noon | The museum includes an extensive collection of Asian art in its Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Islamic galleries. Korean ceramics from the 5th and 6th centuries are on display. The Marianne E. Gibson Gallery includes works by John Singleton Copley, James Peale, Robert Fulton, and Edward Savage | Through Sept 25: "Hope and Healing: Painting in Italy in a Time of Plague, 1500-1800"

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY | 617.536.5400 | Copley Sq., Boston | Mon-Thurs 9 am–9 pm; Fri-Sat 9 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through Aug 31: "In Response to Place: Photographs from the Nature Conservatory's Last Great Places Exhibit"
B-SIDE LOUNGE | 617.354.0766 | 92 Hampshire St, Cambridge | Call for hours | Through Aug 25: "Rena Coen: Snapshots"
CAMBRIDGE MULTICULTURAL ARTS CENTER | 617.577.1400 | 41 Second St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 10 am–6 pm Through Sept 2: "ph15: Student Photography from Buenos Aires"
CAMBRIDGE SEVEN ASSOCIATES | 617.492.7000 | 1050 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Call for hours | Through Oct 31: "Travels: Photography from Australia, North America, Asia, Oceania, and Europe by Barbara Chitouras and Barry Sweet"
FRENCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER | 617.912.0400 | 53 Marlborough St, Boston | Tues-Thurs 10 am–8 pm; Fri-Sat 10 am–5 pm | Sept 1-Oct 3: "Mots Cassés: Photographs by Alan Greene"
GALLERIA ARTEMISIA | 508.487.8300 | 167 Commercial St, Provincetown | Daily noon–5 pm, 7:30-10:30 pm | Through Sept 1: "David Sokosh: The Gay 90s"
GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY | 781.729.1158 | 67 Shore Rd, Winchester | Tues-Sun noon–4 pm | Admission $5, $2 seniors, free for children and students; free admission for all on Thurs | Through Sept 10: "Then Again: Maggie Taylor" | "John Chervinsky: $CaCO_3$"
FOGG ART MUSEUM | 617.495.9400 | 32 Quincy St | Daily 10 am–5 pm | Admission $7.50, $6 for seniors and students; free for those under 18; free admission Sat 10 am–noon | Tours Mon-Fri 11 am | Through Oct 30: "A New Kind of Historical Evidence: Photographs from the Carpenter Center Collection."
HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY | 617.495.3045 | 26 Oxford St | Daily 9 am–5 pm | Admission $7.50, $6 for students and seniors, $5 for ages 3-18, free for ages 2 and under and Sun 9 am–noon | Through Oct 2: "Thoreau's Walden: A Journey in Photographs by Scot Miller"
LYNNARTS | (781-598-5244), 25 Exchange St., Lynn. | Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Through Sept 16: "The Greater Lynn Photographic Association"
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | Cambridge |
– MIT Museum | 617.253.4444 | 265 Mass Ave | Tues-Fri 10 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $5, $2 for seniors, students, and youth 5-18 | Ongoing: "Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Doc Edgerton"
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 617.267.9300 | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | Sat-Tues 10 am–4:45 pm; Wed-Fri 10 am–9:45 pm | Admission $15, $13 for seniors, students, free for ages 17 and under during non-school hours. Voluntary contribution after 4 pm Wed | Through Dec 31: "Ansel Adams"
OUT OF THE BLUE GALLERY | 617.354.5287 | 106 Prospect St, Cambridge. | Mon-Sun, noon–6 pm | Through Aug 31: "Vera Broekhuysen: The Eye in the Center of Your Chest"
PANOPTICON GALLERY BOSTON | Hotel Commonwealth | 617.267.8929 | 500 Comm Ave, Boston | Call for hours | Through Sept 10: "A Storied Lens: The Photographic World of Norman Fortier"
PANOPTICON GALLERY WALTHAM | 781.647.0100 | 435 Moody St, Waltham | Mon-Fri 10 am–6 pm | Through Sept 10: "From the Attic"
PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY | 617.496.1027 | 11 Divinity Ave, Cambridge | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Breaking the Silence: Nineteenth Century Indian Delegations to Washington, D.C."
SCAT GALLERY | 617.628.8826 | 90 Union Square, Somerville | Mon-Thurs noon–10 pm; Fri-Sat 10 am–6 pm | Through Aug 29: "Once Upon a Time: Photographs by Vanessa Thompson"
ZUZU | 617.864.3278 | 474 Mass Ave Cambridge. | Call for hours | Through Aug 31: "Where Is the Love: Photographs by Johnny Pics"

SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES

BOSTON COLLEGE | McMullen Museum | 617.552.8100 | Chestnut Hill | Mon-Fri 11 am–3 pm; Sun noon–5 pm; Closed holidays | Through Dec 4: "The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons"
– Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library 617.552.4470 | Mon-Sat 11 am–4 pm | Ongoing: "'Tip' O'Neill Memorial Exhibit"
BOSTON UNIVERSITY | 617.353.3349
– Mugar Memorial Library | 617.353.3736 | 771 Comm Ave | Mon-Thurs 8 am-midnight; Fri-Sat 8 am–11 pm; Sun 10 pm–midnight | Through Aug 31: "Marie Brenner: Insider Investigations"
HARVARD UNIVERSITY AND RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE | Cambridge |
– Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University | 617.524.1718 | 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain | Call for hours | More than 6500 species of plants in a 265-acre botanical garden designed by Frederick Law Olmsted
– Busch-Reisinger Museum | 617.495.9400 | 32 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50, $6 for students and seniors; free for ages 18 and under; free on Sat 10 am–noon | Tours Mon-Fri 1 pm | Features Central and Northern European art, including late medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque sculpture, 16th-century painting, and 18th-century porcelain. Features a collection of 20th-century German works |
– Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts | 617.495.3251 | 24 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 9 am–11:30 pm; Sun noon–11:30 pm Through Sept 18: "Girls on Film"
– Fogg Art Museum | 617.495.9400 | 32 Quincy St | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50; $6 for seniors and students; free for those under 18; free admission Sat 10 am–noon | Tours Mon-Fri 11 am | The decorative arts gallery includes 17th- and 18th-century British and American silver, furniture, and porcelain. The Maurice Wertheim Collection features Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works | Ongoing: "To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop."
– Harvard University Museum of Natural History | 617.495.3045 | 26 Oxford St | Daily, 9 am–5 pm | Admission $7.50, $6 for students and seniors, $5 for ages 3-18, free for ages 2 and under. Free on Sun 9 am–noon | The "Ware Collection of Glass Models and Plants" includes more than 3,000 glass flowers. The Mineralogical and Geological Museums feature mineral and ore collections, with displays of gems and meteorites. The Museum of Comparative Zoology covers species from the earliest fossil invertebrates and reptiles to fish and reptiles alive today. Exhibitions also include whale skeletons, the largest turtle shell ever found, the Harvard mastodon, and a 42-foot-long Kronosaurus, the only complete and mounted model of the sea reptile in the country | Ongoing exhibits include "Modeling Nature" an exhibit on glass and its use as an artistic and scientific medium | "Birthstones" | a "Great Mammal" hall | the Romer Hall of Vertebrate Paleontology
– Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology | 617.496.1027 | 11 Divinity Ave | Ongoing: "Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity" | "Pacific Islands Art and Artifacts" | "Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments" | "Encounters with the Americas" | Through March 30, 2006: "Gifts of the Great River: Arkansas Effigy Pottery from the Edwin Curtiss Collection"
– Arthur M. Sackler Museum | 617.495.9400 | 485 Broadway | Mon-Sat 10 am–5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $7.50, $6 for seniors and students; free for ages 18 and under; free admission Sat 10 am–noon | Docent tours Mon-Fri 2 pm | The second and fourth floors feature a permanent collection of works from Oriental, Islamic, Roman, and other ancient cultures | Through Oct 16: "Forging the New: East Asian Painting in the Twentieth Century" | Through Nov 27: "Degas at Harvard" | Aug 27-Jan 29: "Silver and Shawls: India, Europe, and the Colonial Art Market"
– Semitic Museum | 617.495.4631 | 6 Divinity Ave | Mon-Fri 10 am–4 pm; Sun 1-4 pm | Ongoing: "Nuzi and the Hurrians: Fragments from a Forgotten Past" | "Ancient Cyprus: The Cesnola Collection" | "The Sphinx and the Pyramids: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza" | "The Houses of Ancient Israel: Domestic, Royal, Divine"
MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART | 617.232.1555 | Tower Bldg, 621 Huntington Ave, Boston | Mon-Fri 10 am–10 pm; Sat 11 am–10 pm
– Stephen D. Paine Gallery | Mon-Fri noon–6 pm | Sat 11 am–5 pm | Through Sept. 21: "The Rozome Masters of Japan Exhibition"
– Student Life Gallery | Kennedy Bldg, 621 Huntington Ave, 2nd floor | Mon-Fri 9 am–8 pm | Ongoing: "Under Pressure"
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | Cambridge
– MIT Museum | 617.253.4444 | 265 Mass Ave | Tues-Fri 10 am–5 pm | Sat-Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $5 | Ongoing: "Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers" | "Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT" | "Holography: The Light Fantastic" | "Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Doc Edgerton" | "Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson" | "Thinkapalooza"; "Young Inventors at MIT"
– Dean's Gallery | 617.253.9455 | 50 Memorial Dr | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Through Dec 16: "Theodore Roszak: Working Drawings for the MIT Bell Tower"
– Hart Nautical Galleries | 617.253.5492 | 55 Mass Ave | Daily, 9 am–8 pm | Ongoing: "Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design" | "Deep Frontiers: Ocean Engineering at MIT" | "IQuarium"
– Media Test Wall | 617.253.4400 | Whitaker Bldg No. 56 | Open round the clock | Through Sept 9: Videos by Oliver Herring
– Strobe Alley | 617.253.4629 | 77 Mass Ave | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Never Stop Learning: The Life and Legacy of Harold Edgerton"
– Wolk Gallery | 617.253.7334 | Room 7-338 | 77 Mass Ave | Through Sept 16: "Rock Paper Scissors"
– Women's Studies Program | 617.253.8844 | Room 14E-316, 77 Mass Ave | Call for hours | Ongoing: "Women at MIT"
MONTSERRAT COLLEGE OF ART GALLERY | 978.922.8222 | 23 Essex St, Beverly | Mon-Fri 11 am–5 pm | Through Sept 15: "The Founding Faculty"
– Carol Schlosberg Alumni Gallery | Mon-Thurs 9 am–7 pm | Fri 9 am–5 pm | Sat noon–4 pm | Through Sept 15: "In Memoriam: Paintings by Carol Schlosberg"
MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE ART MUSEUM | 413.538.2245 | South Hadley | Tues-Fri 11 am–5 pm; Sat-Sun 1-5 pm | Free admission | Through Dec: "Asian Art"
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY | 617.373.2249 | Boston
– Ryder Hall Atrium | 147 Forsyth St | Daily 7 am–11 pm | Ongoing: "Recent Urban Design: Work in Boston"
REGIS COLLEGE, | Carney Gallery | 781.768.8367 | 235 Wellesley St, Weston | Mon-Fri 10 am–4 pm
– Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History | Thurs-Sun noon–5 pm | Admission $5, $3 for students and seniors, free for ages 16 and under | Exhibits include rare Lindbergh material from 1927 transatlantic flight, US and Boston airmail history, and international airmail including the world's first airmail flight in India in 1911
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN | Museum of Art | 401.454.6500 | 224 Benefit St, Providence, RI | Tues-Sun 10 am–5 pm | Admission $6, $5 for seniors, $3 for students, $2 for ages 5-18 | Ongoing: "19th-Century Painting, Sculpture and Decorative Arts" | "Rethinking the Romans: New Views of Ancient Sculpture" | Through Sept 18: "Alexis Rockman: Manifest Destiny" | "Infinite Variety: American Quilts and Coverlets" | Through Sept 25: "Bodies of Evidence: Contemporary Perspectives" | Through Oct 16: "Bandhani to Batik: Resist-Dyed Textiles from Asia" | Aug 26-Jan 1: "The Lure of Ink: Japanese Monochromatic Prints and Books"
SCHOOL OF THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | Grossman Gallery | 617.369.3718 | 230 The Fenway, Boston | Mon-Tues, Fri, 10 am–5 pm; Wed-Thurs 10 am–8 pm; Sat-Sun noon–5 pm | Through Sept 11: "Students Curate Students: Affirming the Hand"
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY | New England School of Art & Design Gallery | 617.536.3383 | 75 Arlington St, Boston | Mon-Fri 9 am–9 pm; Sat 9 am–5 pm; Sun noon–5 pm | Through Sept 28: "Return on Investment: An Exhibition on the Theme of Money"
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL | Adams Gallery | 617.573.8508 | 120 Tremont St, Boston | Daily, 10 am–6 pm | Through Sept 30: "Touching All Bases: A Red Sox History"
TUFTS UNIVERSITY | Art Gallery | 617.627.3518 | 40R Talbot Ave, Medford | Tues-Sun 11 am–5 pm Thurs 11 am-8 pm
– Royall House Slave Quarters | 781.396.9032 | 15 George St | Wed-Sun 2-5 pm | Ongoing: "From Africa to Medford: The Untold Story of the Royall House Slaves"
WELLESLEY COLLEGE | 781.283.2051 | 106 Central St, Wellesley | Davis Museum and Cultural Center | Tues-Sun, noon–4 pm | Ongoing: "Art of the Ancient Americas" | "Divine Mirrors: The Madonna Unveiled" | "African Art In/Out of Context" | "The Multiple"

Television

ABOVE SUSPICION? Polly Walker as Caesar's niece Atia of the Julii.

Making history

HBO's *Rome*, FX's *Over There*

BY CHRIS NELSON

Time to face facts: HBO owns me. It's a realization I came to about a year and a half ago as I sat on my girlfriend's couch almost — *almost* — shedding a tear for Carrie Bradshaw. That should have been the end to a string of wasted wintry Sunday nights. And it would have had my clicker finger been quicker.

But the TV stayed on, and I sat transfixed as previews flashed in front of my wide eyes. Before I knew it, seasons were flashing by outside the window, the only constant being me, anchored to the sofa every Sunday, watching whatever piece of immaculately acted and beautifully filmed melodrama Home Box Office chose to put in front of me. *The Sopranos* turned to *Carnivàle* turned to *Deadwood*, and I was powerless to stop it. The trademark static tone that announces the opening of each HBO series episode doubled as the death rattle of my social life, a new season of one show starting just as its predecessor ended.

Finally this fall, with *Six Feet Under* going under for good and *The Wire* still months away, I thought I was safe. I was ready to rise up against my oppressor and break the shackles that bound my legs to the ottoman! Then came *Rome*.

Set in 52 BC, *Rome* (premieres this Sunday, August 28, at 9pm) is far and away the most lavish and complex show on a network known for its lavish and complex shows. Perhaps that's because the BBC is co-producing. The cast is large and uniformly Roman-looking (you'll need a family tree just to keep up); the tangled story line is woven from bits of ancient history. Roman legionnaires Titus Pullo (Ray Stevenson) and Lucius Vorenus (Kevin McKidd) are a regular Odd Couple, with Titus playing oafish Oscar to Lucius's straitlaced Felix. Except that Titus is an alcoholic womanizer and Lucius hasn't seen his wife (Indira Varma) and family in the eight years since he joined the army. The two form an unlikely bond early on when they're given an "errand" from Julius Caesar that turns out to be a wild-goose chase. From there, the pair find themselves in the middle of some of Rome's most important events.

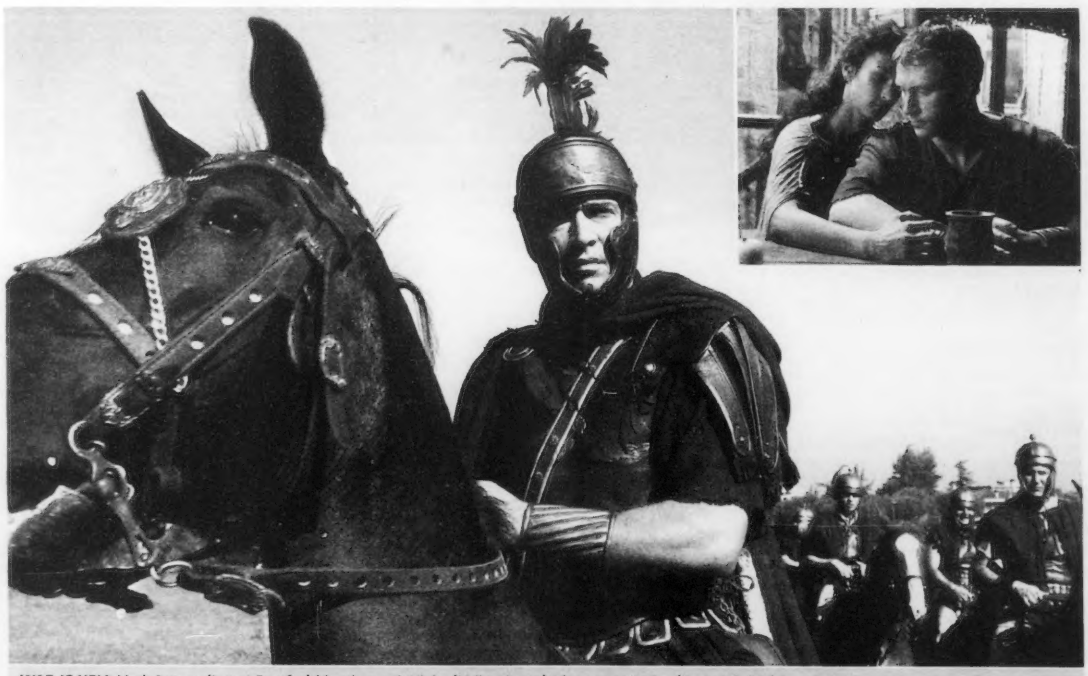
One problem for any historical drama is that the audience may already know what's going to happen. And just about everyone does know that Caesar, who in 52 BC is in the midst of subjugating Gaul, will go on to defeat Pompey and shack up with Cleopatra before falling afoul of the Ides of March. By adding Titus and Lucius — whose real-life stories are relatively undocumented — as well as the families and lovers surrounding the better-known characters, *Rome* ensures that there'll be some surprises, even for those sitting in front of the TV with their history books open. And discerning viewers will be pleasantly surprised at the obsessive attention to detail. ABC's summer mini-series *Empire*, which followed the fortunes of Caesar's nephew Octavius, was panned for its lack of realism and its time-line flaws. No such complaints can be leveled against *Rome*. Senate debates between the likes of Cato and Pompey are straight out of Livy's histories, even if they're delivered in English. That's one problem you might have with *Rome*: though it would hardly do to have the actors orate in Latin with subtitles, the show's contemporary English is jarring. Or is that the aftereffect of all those stuffy translations of Homer and Virgil?

Almost forgot: this being cable, HBO showcases ancient Rome's well-documented lust for . . . well, *lust*. Although plentiful, the sex scenes aren't excessive, especially since most of them are fueled more by politics than by desire. The battle scenes likewise are murky and unglamorous and not excessively gory. The sacrificial bull bleeding in one episode is another matter, but, hey, real is real.

If *Rome* doesn't slake your thirst for blood, just flip over to FX, another network known for its addictive, if dumbed-down, dramas. Steven Bochco's *Over There* (Wednesdays at 10pm) is as violent as anything on TV, but not without reason. The show, which follows a fictional unit of soldiers fighting in Iraq, aims to horrify rather than impress. In an early episode, an Army troop levels a rocket launcher at an Iraqi insurgent and blows his torso to pieces. Time to move along to the next digit in the body count? Nope — *Over There* prolongs the agony, showing the deceased's autonomous legs taking their final steps in sickening slow motion as the US soldiers look on in shock.

That scene might lead you to think that *Over There* beats you over the head with anti-war messages. In fact, there's humanity as well as violence, and the unit members are a step up from simpletons and supersoldiers. Frank Dumphy enrolled after graduating from Cornell, thus earning himself the nickname "Dim"; former high-school football player Bo Rider is trying to get Uncle Sam to pay his way through Texas A&M. Despite the camaraderie, not everybody gets along. Smoke, a black soldier with a chip on his shoulder, is skeptical of Arab-American Tariq until Tariq proves himself just as capable of killing an Iraqi as anyone else.

All the slaughter and the drama can be a bit overwhelming, and though there's some comic relief, *Over There*'s redeeming element is its photography. For every night-vision shot of gun fighting or falling-bomb perspective, there's a glorious tranquil view of the sandy Iraqi landscape. That's why *Over There* has more in common with David O. Russell's Gulf War film *Three Kings* than with M*A*S*H. ⊙



WAR IS HELL Mark Antony (James Purefoy) hits the road; Niobe (Indira Varma) tries to get Lucius (Kevin McKidd) to stay home.

_BY CLIF GARBODEN

Hot Dots

THURSDAY

7:00 [2] VIEWER FAVORITES | "I'm bored again," said Becca the Winsome Blonde. "Praise the Lord," quipped her best friend, the slightly nerdish Rodney. "No, *bored*, I said," countered Becca, not the least bit amused. "There is *nothing* on television this week." "Right," answered Rodney, "what about PBS?" "All they have on the schedule for most of the week is 'Viewer Favorites,' which means those same fundraising specials over and over. I've seen the Springsteen concert, and that *Alone in the Wilderness* movie is great, but how many times can you see it?" whined Becca. "Oh why do they do it?" Rodney lowered his voice. "I think they do it just to piss him off." "Piss *who* off?" asked Becca, puzzled. Rodney lowered his voice to a whisper and said, "You know . . . *him*. Clif, the guy whose name is at the top of this column." Becca shrank back in horror, "You must not speak of him," she warned. "If he gets too annoyed, he may tire of us and start writing about shows on cable." "Well," concluded Rodney, if ever there was a week for it . . . " | Until 11 pm
8:00 [5] EVOLUTION | movie | David Duchovny and Julianne Moore battle for survival with the fittest, which have recently arrived on Earth via comet from outer space. We never knew that willful invasion was a valid evolutionary tool, but these days, we're just happy ABC didn't change the movie's title to *Intelligent Design*. | Until 10 pm
5:00 AM [44] SOUNDSTAGE | Music from Ringo Starr and the Roundheads. To be repeated on Saturday at midnight. | Until 6 am

FRIDAY

7:00 [44] VIEWER FAVORITES | The André Rieu and his Flying Dutchman concert from his native Holland appears to be a particular favorite. Unless they used computer enhancement to swell the crowd, this was a well-attended event in which fiddle-toting André and special guest showboats played a sloppy Pops-style concert. Somebody should be imprisoned for putting it on the air. Perhaps we'll get lucky and they'll run *Visions of Scotland* over and over for four hours. | Until 11 pm
8:00 [5] FOOTBALL | The Pats versus the Green Bay Packers in preseason play.
8:00 [25] FOOTBALL | The Pittsburgh Steelers versus the Washington Redskins in pre-season play.

SATURDAY

1:00 [25] BASEBALL | The Minnesota Twins versus the Texas Rangers.
3:30 [5] BASEBALL | Since, unlike Major League Baseball, the Little League World Series is international, the US teams often lose, so we have our own championship game. Live from Williamsport, Pennsylvania, home of the Little League, *Grit* newspapers, and a whole lot of bears.
8:00 [4] FOOTBALL | The Indianapolis Colts versus the Denver Broncos in pre-season play.
8:00 [5] THE MEXICAN | movie | Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts are teamed in this 2001 caper about a guy (Pitt) trying to get a cursed antique gun across the border from Mexico. It appears to be a mob job. The guy's girlfriend (Julia) hates the mob and objects, but then she gets kidnapped by gangsters. And James Gandolfini plays out a truly regrettable finale to the whole affair. | Until 11 pm

SUNDAY

3:30 [5] BASEBALL | The truly global world championship game of the 2005 Little League World Series — also live from Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

MONDAY

7:30 [2 + 44] VIEWER FAVORITES | Becca the Winsome Blonde looked at her friend, the slightly nerdish Rodney. "Rodney," she said, "have you ever given money to Channel 2?" "Once or twice," replied Rodney. "If somebody gave them a really-really-really lot of money, do you think they'd stop fundraising?" Becca asked. "No," replied Rodney, "I think they're sadists." | Until 11 pm
8:00 [5] FOOTBALL | The St. Louis Rams versus the Detroit Lions in preseason play.
12:37 AM [4] TENNIS | US Open highlights. | Until 1 am

TUESDAY

7:30 [2 + 44] VIEWER FAVORITES | "Heck," said Becca the Winsome Blonde, "we might as well go low-brow and turn to cable." | Until 11 pm
9:30 [A&E] DOG, THE BOUNTY HUNTER: "CATS AND DOGS" | As you may have heard, we're trying to ignore Channel 2 (and the rest of broadcast TV) as much as possible this week. So we're breaking format and writing at length about a show you can see only on DVD or cable. (Granted, a sane person would watch this one only once, but that's one more time than any sane person could sit through an André Rieu concert.) Here we have the more-or-less cinéma-vérité exploits of Duane "Dog" Chapman, a bail bondsman and (when his suspects skip) bounty hunter. Dog lives in Hawaii. He's an ex-biker, an ex-con (accomplice to first-degree murder), a Born Again, and (in a professional-wrestling sort of way) one scary dude: leather vest, steel armband, tattoos, shoulder-length blond hair, a braid, feathers — the whole WWF costume. You owe it to yourself (and your sense of 21st-century culture) to see this guy. He runs his business with his wife, Beth Smith, no lightweight herself, who in deference to the possibility that Dog might take offense and track us down we'll describe as a fine figure of a woman. The Dog Chapmans have pups (three out of a total of 12 sired by Duane) whose domestic normality provides a demeaning but somehow charming counterpoint to the macho family business ethic. In each episode, Dog and (usually) Beth and their posse (Dog's first and third sons from a previous marriage and a career bondsman named Tim) head out to retrieve some sorry sap who didn't show up in court. Dog and company, dressed in black for intimidation, hit the road in gargantuan SUVs (Beth at one wheel, Dog driving the other), often with no apparent plan beyond stopping at a school to deliver some anti-drug intimidation. No problem, Dog is not only scary and an expert braggart, he's wily.

In the episode we caught, he ran his prey to ground by calling him on the phone and pretending to be a wrong number. Armed with a verified phone number (okay, the guy slipped and said, "No, this is Joe's house," and there could be only one Joe in Hawaii), Dog consulted a reverse phone directory and got the perp's address. Ah, but things don't always go smoothly, even for the Dog. There was no street sign. Dog and Beth spent most of the episode driving around Hawaii asking UPS guys for directions. After repeatedly getting lost — all the while taking themselves *very* seriously and talking *very* tough — the posse stumbled upon the fellow they'd been looking for (shirtless, like all the bad guys on *Cops*) amid a cluttered roadside tableau that seemed to involve a small house, other shirtless men, and a lot of broken automobiles. Dog sprang into action, leapt from the SUV, and menaced the stunned, bare-chested 240-pound bail jumper with . . . a hand-held fire extinguisher. (Dog says he believes in guns but not bullets.) Turns out, poor Joe's wife misinterpreted some official papers and Joe didn't even know he was meant to go to court. Joe also turned out to be a nice guy — a family man. After Beth and Joe's wife embraced like a pair of long-lost grizzlies, he even directed the navigationally impaired posse to the local police station. And justice was served without mishap.

Okay, it's a hoked-up pseudo reality show. It's silly — one could say pathetic in its scope. But it does qualify as found art. Do these people realize how funny they are? No independent director, no matter how drugged-up or eccentric, could have made this show up. Like Channel 2 (and much of cable), the A&E network doesn't have an especially regular weekly schedule, but *Dog, the Bounty Hunter* seems to show up most Tuesday evenings. | Until 10 pm
12:37 AM [4] TENNIS | US Open highlights. | Until 1 am

WEDNESDAY

7:30 [2 + 44] VIEWER FAVORITES | Think of it as a vacation. Americans watch too much TV anyway. | Until 11 pm
12:37 AM [4] TENNIS | US Open highlights. | Until 1 am

THURSDAY

8:00 [2] IN SEARCH OF SHAKESPEARE: A TIME OF REVOLUTION | Historian Michael Wood explores the Bard's life and legend. In this, we cover the early years, schooling, things little Willie's father did to disgrace the family, and the playwright's shotgun teenage wedding. All true? Whatever. | Until 9 pm
8:00 [5] FOOTBALL | The Pats versus the New York Giants in preseason play.
9:00 [2] WATERGATE PLUS 30: SHADOW OF H!STORY | A new look back at the Nixon cover-up scandal. For those of you who missed it or have been misled by all the recent anti-Deep Throat propaganda, believe this: Richard Nixon was a crook. | Until 11 pm
12:37 AM [4] TENNIS | US Open highlights. | Until 1 am

Books

Details in Hell

A National Guardsman reports home

_BY CLEA SIMON

THE LAST TRUE STORY I'LL EVER TELL: AN ACCIDENTAL SOLDIER'S ACCOUNT OF THE WAR IN IRAQ

BY JOHN CRAWFORD, RIVERHEAD BOOKS, 238 PAGES, $23.95.

General Sherman told us war is hell; John Crawford fills us in on the specifics. No novice to Army service, Crawford spent three years with the 101st Airborne Division (XII) before joining the National Guard to pay for college tuition. Still, it wasn't until near the end of his Guard time, when he was newly married and two credits away from graduating, that he got called up to active duty in Iraq. What happened there seems to have destroyed much of the life that came before. And in this intense volume, he spits it all back, half-digested and as disgusting as that sounds, full of bile, blood, and chunks of experience too awkward to pass.

As a National Guardsman, Crawford explains, he found himself a sort of semi-soldier, underappreciated and ill-equipped. The Air Force has "climate-controlled shelters"; the Guard does not. The Marines have tents; the Guard does not. Armed with equipment that can't stand up to the desert, much less the weapons of the enemy, Crawford describes a helpless, desperate state of confusion. The pure filth of life on duty in Iraq only aggravates the situation. Outside Nasiriyah, for example, everyone gets sick, and unsanitary conditions ("My company . . . slept next to where we shit and shit next to where we ate") seem to be to blame. As for the soldiers' dysentery, "most just dropped right outside [the tents], puking and shitting at the same time." By the time we hear that "It had been days since I brushed my teeth, and weeks since I had bathed," such filth seems normal.

Casual drug use, from steroids to one happy bout with morphine, provide virtually the only relief for the soldiers. For the reader, breaks come as Crawford describes their ways of dealing with the crushing boredom. One soldier repeatedly watches a copy of the cheerleader flick *Bring It On* that they sent him from home. Soon the film's lingo invades his own: "I make the cheer-cisions and I'll deal with the cheer-onsequences."

That Crawford didn't have a prior bias against the military makes his experience all the more painful. He refers with affection to colleagues who are good soldiers, who don't shirk the mind-numbingly dull, hot details. But even for a veteran, this sounds like a bad war. "This was a war I didn't believe in, but no one had asked my opinion. I had signed a contract, reaped the benefits of a cheap college education, and now it was time to pay it back." In retrospect, it becomes clear, he struck an awful deal.

In his episodic style, Crawford doesn't go into the details of post-traumatic stress or how such miserable experiences affect a civilian soldier's readjustment to normal life. One phone call suffices. Over a scratchy satellite line, his wife sounds tired. Their dog has crapped all over the house. She wants sympathy and support. Crawford, feeling himself in another universe, counters with a story of cleaning up brains and one piece of skull that got caught in his shoe.

As such examples illustrate, this is a book that rides on its honesty. Crawford's straightforward style gives both his horror and growing apathy visceral appeal. He's not a great prose stylist, and though every incident stands out, often his fellow soldiers blend together. We are asked, for example, to feel his loss when one friend from home, Robert Wise, is killed. He describes a young man who's a big fan of "cheesy sci-fi movies." He describes his own despair at Wise's death: "How easy to put a muzzle in your mouth." But we aren't as connected as we should be. We don't understand the magnitude of the event.

The one young man we do come to know and feel sympathy for is Crawford. "I wanted to go to my home and my wife, but I didn't have either a home or a wife anymore," he says. "Twenty-five years old and nothing to live for." One powerful book is poor compensation. ⊙

THE GOOD SOLDIER Even for a veteran, this sounds like a bad war.

Classical + Dance + Readings + Events

CLASSICAL

Concerts

FRIDAY 26

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY MAREK JANOWSKI | Mozart's Serenade No. 6 in D K.239 [*Serenata notturna*]; Haydn's Cello Concerto in D, with Lynn Harrell; Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 | 8:30 pm | Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St, Lenox | $17-$85 | 617.266.1200
JEFFRY STEELE | guitar works by Tarrega, Falla, Albéniz, Rodrigo, Turina | 8 pm | St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1123 Washington St, Gloucester | $10, $5 for children | 978.282.3106

SATURDAY 27

BOSTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY | Mozart's Piano Trio No. 3; Shostakovich's Viola Sonata; Fauré's Piano Quartet No. 1 | 8 pm | Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St, Cambridge | $25, $22 for seniors, $10 for students | 617.349.0086
BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JOHN WILLIAMS | "Film Night," with Josh Groban | 8:30 pm | Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St, Lenox | $18-$96 | 617.266.1200

SUNDAY 28

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY MAREK JANOWSKI | Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, with soprano Hillevi Martinpelto, mezzo-soprano Susan Platts, tenor Kurt Streit, and bass Alastair Miles | 2:30 pm | Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St, Lenox | $18-$96 | 617.266.1200

TUESDAY 30

LEONARDO CIAMPA | organ works by Bach, Buxtehude, Guilmant, and Ciampa | 8 pm | Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St, Boston | Free | 617.739.1340
THOMAS GREGG + JASON McSTOOTS + HEINRICH CHRISTENSEN | "Baroque Dialogues for Two Tenors" with works by Monteverdi, Purcell, others | 12:15 pm | King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston | Suggested donation $3 | 617.227.2155

WEDNESDAY 31

HILLYER FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA | 7:30 pm | Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston | Free | 781.736.9542

THURSDAY 1

CHARNESS FAMILY | noon | Copley Square, Boston | Free | 781.736.9542

DANCE

Performance

THURSDAY 25

BLACK GRACE Thurs-Fri 8; Sat 2 + 8 pm; Sun 2 pm | Jacob's Pillow, Ted Shawn Theatre, George Carter Rd, Becket | $40.50-$45 | 413.243.0745
PROJECT FUKUROW Thurs-Fri 8:15 pm; Sat 2:15 + 8:15 pm; Sun 5 pm | Jacob's Pillow, Doris Duke Studio Theatre, George Carter Rd, Becket | $18-$20 | 413.243.0745

FRIDAY 26

BLACK GRACE See listing for Wed

SATURDAY 27

FESTIVAL FINALE BENEFIT DANCE PARTY with Black Grace | 8 pm | Jacob's Pillow, Ted Shawn Theatre, George Carter Rd, Becket | $100 | or with Project Fukurow | 8:15 pm | Doris Duke Studio Theatre, George Carter Rd, Becket | $75 | 413.243.0745
BLACK GRACE See listing for Wed

Participatory

THURSDAY 25

EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | 8 pm | First Parish of Watertown, 35 Church St, Watertown | $7, $4 for students | 781.662.7475
GREEK FOLK DANCE | 7 pm | Greek Orthodox Church of the Virgin Mary, 29 Central St, Somerville | Free | 617.625.2222
MILONGA LA PORTEÑA | 8:30 pm | Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St, Brookline | $10 | 617.738.2800
NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS + SQUARES | 8 pm | VFW Mount Auburn Post, 688 Huron Ave, Cambridge | $6 | 781.662.6710
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | 8 pm [with a beginners' dance at 7:30 pm] | Universalist Church, 211 Bridge St, Salem | Tickets $3 | 978.745.2229
TEMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE | 8 pm | Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | $12 before 9 pm; $8 after 9 pm | 617.876.9330

FRIDAY 26

BAILATANGO MILONGA | 9 pm [with a lesson at 8:15 pm] | Extreme Dancesport Studio, 288 Norfolk St, Cambridge | $10 [$15 with class] | 617.792.4533
BALKAN DANCE | 7:30 pm | Scalzi School of Dance, 101 Bigelow Ave, Watertown | $8 | 617.840.2362
HAVANA CLUB SALSA | 8:30 pm | Greek Club, 288 Green St, Cambridge | $12 | 617.312.5550
INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | 8 pm | Park Avenue Congregational Church, 50 Paul Revere Rd, Arlington | $7, $4 for students | 781.662.7475

SATURDAY 27

GAY AND LESBIAN CONTRA DANCE | 7:30-11 pm | First Unitarian Universalist Church, Centre and Eliot Sts, Jamaica Plain | $8 | 617.522.2216
NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS + SQUARES COUPLES DANCE | 8 pm | Scout House, 74 Walden St, Concord | $8 | 617.547.7781
NOCHE DE LA SALSA | 9:30 pm | Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St, Brookline | $10 | 617.738.2800
RYLES DANCE HALL | with Latin, swing, and tango sounds with DJ Chris Johnston | 9 pm | Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge | $12 | 617.876.9330

SUNDAY 28

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING | 8 pm | Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel, 52 Mount Auburn St, Cambridge | $3, $2 for students | 617.484.3267
MAMBO/SALSA CLUB with music by Mackie Burnette + DJ O'Bruno | 1 pm | Middle East, 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $15, $12 for students | 617.524.2763
SAMBA SUNDAY | 7 pm | Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St, Brookline | $10 | 617.738.2800
SCOTTISH COUNTRY TWELFTH NIGHT DANCE | 6:30-8:30 pm | Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St, Brookline | $5 | 617.661.5899
WEPA SALSA SUNDAY DANCE | 8 pm-midnight | 179 South St [6th floor], Boston | $10 | 617.388.0925

MONDAY 29

BULGARIAN/BALKAN DANCING | 7:30 pm | Green Street Studios, 185 Green St, Cambridge | $12 | 617.840.2362
HAVANA CLUB MAMBO MONDAY SALSA DANCE | 9:30 pm | Green Street Grill, 280 Green St, Cambridge | $8 | 617.312.5550 | www.havanasalsa.com.
ISRAELI FOLK DANCE | 8 pm-midnight | Temple Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard Ave, Brookline | $4, $3 for students | 617.484.4282
NEW ENGLAND SQUARES + CONTRAS | with Yankee Ingenuity | 7:30 pm | Scout House, 74 Walden St, Concord | $7 | 781.272.0396
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | 7:45 pm | Springstep, 98 George P. Hassett Dr, Medford | $7, $4 for students | 617.661.5899
SWING ARLINGTON | 9 pm [with lessons at 6:45 + 7:45 pm] | Elks Dance Hall, 56 Pond Lane, Arlington | $10 before 9 pm; $6 after | 617.623.3134

TUESDAY 30

BALKAN DANCE | 8:30 pm | Sava Serbian Orthodox Church, 33 West Water St, Wakefield | $7 | 781.246.9663
FOLK DANCING BY THE FOUNTAIN | 7:30-10 pm | Copley Square, corner of Clarendon + Boylston Sts, Boston | Free | 781.662.7475

WEDNESDAY 31

ARGENTINE TANGO DANCE | 7:30 pm | Elks Lodge, 55 Bishop Allen Dr, Cambridge | $5 | 617.270.4994
DANCE FREEDOM | a smoke- and alcohol-free barefoot dance | 7:30 pm | First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St, Cambridge | $6 | 978.369.7522
ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE | 7:30-10:30 pm | Park Avenue Congregational Church, 50 Paul Revere Rd, Arlington Heights | $8, $3 for students | 781.662.6710
ISRAELI DANCE | 7 pm | MIT, Lobby of Building 13, 77 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Suggested donation $1 | 617.253.3655
TANGO BREAK | 8:30 pm | VFW Mount Auburn Post, 688 Huron Ave, Cambridge | $5 | 617.699.6246

THURSDAY 1

TEMPORADA LATINA SALSA AND MERENGUE DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs
EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs
GREEK FOLK DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs
MILONGA LA PORTEÑA | See listing for previous Thurs
NEW ENGLAND CONTRAS AND SQUARES | See listing for previous Thurs
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE | See listing for previous Thurs

READINGS

THURSDAY 25

DEBRA NEIMAN reads from *Money Without Matrimony* | 7 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St, Brookline | Free | 617.566.6660

FRIDAY 26

CLEOPATRA MATHIS + MAJOR JACKSON read from their poetry | 8 pm | Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, 24 Pearl St, Provincetown | Free | 508.487.9960
WORDBEAT POETS 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St, Cambridge | $3-$5 | 617.354.5287

SATURDAY 27

"OPEN BARK POETRY NIGHT" with Deborah Priestly | 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St, Cambridge | Suggested donation $3-$5 | 617.354.5287
LIAM RECTOR + ELLEN DORE WATSON + SVEN BIRKERTS read from their work | 8 pm | Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, 24 Pearl St, Provincetown | Free | 508.487.9960

JOHN WILLIAMS leads "Film Night" Saturday at Tanglewood.

SUNDAY 28

LIZARD LOUNGE POETRY SLAM & JAM | 7:30 pm | Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $6 | 617.547.0759
POETRY EXCHANGE with Richard Moore | 3-5 pm | Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Free | 617.489.0519

MONDAY 29

STONE SOUP POETRY OPEN MIC with Jack Powers | 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St, Cambridge | Suggested donation $4 | 617.227.0845

TUESDAY 30

DR. BROWN'S TRAVELING POETRY SHOW with Michael R. Brown + Douglas Bishop + Jeff Taylor + Simone Beaubien + Ryk McIntyre + Valerie Lawson + Corina Bain + Alex Charalambides + Mala Radhakrishnan + Melissa Guillet + Chris O'Carroll + Gary Hoare + Kit Yan + Bizzoc 7 | 7:30 pm | Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge | $5 | 617.876.6060
AMANDA FILIPACCHI reads from *Love Creeps* | 7:30 pm | Borders, 255 Crossman Dr, Braintree | Free | 781.356.5111

WEDNESDAY 31

BOSTON POETRY SLAM & OPEN MIC | 8 pm | Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $3 | 617.354.2685

EVENTS

THURSDAY 25

BROOKLINE FARMERS MARKET with Story Partners 300 | 1:30 pm-dusk | Centre Street West Parking Lot, Brookline | 617.730.2051

FRIDAY 26

CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY with JudyAnn Bigby + Barbara Lee + Stacy Madison + Kathleen O'Toole + Susan Segat | 11:45 am | Boston Women's Memorial, Commonwealth Ave Mall, between Fairfield and Gloucester Sts, Boston | Free | 617.626.6520
COPLEY SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET | Fri and Tues 11 am-6 pm | Copley Square, along St. James Ave, Boston | Free | 781.893.8222
NEW ENGLAND FESTIVAL OF ARTS + FINE CRAFTS with music + food + auction + jewelry + pottery + wood + metal + clothing + photography + sculpture + painting + more | Fri noon-6 pm; Sat 10 am-6 pm; Sun 10 am-5 pm | Plaza at Tsongas Arena, 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell | $8, $5 for seniors, free for kids under 12 | 800.291.6116
SUMMER X GAMES | "Lumen Flux" with DJs + VJs + noise artists + burlesque | 9 pm-midnight | Art Interactive, 130 Bishop Allen Dr, Cambridge | Suggested donation $10 | 617.498.0100

SATURDAY 27

ART IN THE COURTYARD with sculpture + painting + photography + fiber arts + jewelry + more | 11 am-6 pm | Lowell National Park Courtyard, Lowell | Free | 978.459.7819
CARIBBEAN AMERICAN CARNIVAL PARADE noon-6 pm | Martin Luther King Blvd to Blue Hill Ave, Roxbury | Free | 617.694.7083
NEW ENGLAND FESTIVAL OF ARTS + FINE CRAFTS See listing for Fri

SUNDAY 28

BIKE DESIGN CHALLENGE: A COMPETITION FOR BIKE MODIFIERS with tallbikes + races + events + prizes | 1-4 pm | Harvard University, Radcliffe Quad, between Shepard + Walker Sts, Cambridge | Free | 617.589.0316
SOUTH END OPEN MARKET with photographs + high-end crafts + sculpture + pottery + clothing + jewelry + housewares + antique dealers + florists + bakers + local produce + more | 10 am-4 pm | 540 Harrison Ave, Boston | Free | 617.481.2257
NEW ENGLAND FESTIVAL OF ARTS + FINE CRAFTS See listing for Fri

MONDAY 29

CENTRAL SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET | noon-6 pm | Parking Lot 5, Bishop Allen Dr and Norfolk St, Cambridge | Free | 781.893.8222
CITY HALL PLAZA FARMERS' MARKET | Mon and Wed 11 am-6 pm | City Hall Plaza, Cambridge St, Boston | Free | 781.893.8222

TUESDAY 30

COPLEY SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET | See listing for Fri

WEDNESDAY 31

DAVIS SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET | noon-6 pm | Day and Herbert Sts, Somerville | Free | 781.893.8222
CITY HALL PLAZA FARMERS' MARKET | See listing for Mon

Gay & Lesbian

SATURDAY 27

CANDYSHOP LESBIAN NIGHT | 10 pm | Opal Lounge, 48 Winter St, Boston | $10 | 617.482.6725
GLITTER SWITCH DRAG KARAOKE | 8:30 pm | Club Hollywood Boston, 41 Essex St, Boston | $5 | 617.417.0186

MONDAY 29

LESBIAN RAP | 7:30 pm | Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St, Cambridge | Free | 617.354.8807
LIVING ART GROUP for lesbian + bisexual + transgender or queer women, 13-25 | 6-8 pm | Boston GLASS Community Center, 93 Mass Ave, Boston | Free | 617.266.3349
SPEAKEASY DISCUSSION GROUP FOR LGBT YOUNG ADULTS 18-25 | 7 pm | Boston GLASS Community Center, 93 Mass Ave, Boston | Free | 617.266.3349

Benefits

THURSDAY 25

BOSTON ROCKS WITH GENEROSITY HIV/AIDS BENEFIT CONCERT with Todd Martin + Jake Armerding + Sky Circuit + Rane | 8:30 pm | Middle East, 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $15 | 617.931.2000

SATURDAY 27

FESTIVAL + PIE RACE TO BENEFIT MASSBIKE with rides + bike expo + barbecue + more | 8:30 am-3 pm | Verrill Farm, Concord | $35-$55 | 617.542.BIKE
PERFORMANCE ART TO BENEFIT THE WOMEN OF COLOR AIDS COUNCIL 4:30 pm for reception + dinner | 7 pm for performance | Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St, Jamaica Plain | $60 for dinner + performance; $17 for performance | 617.698.9938

THE Phoenix | personals

AD OF THE WEEK

CAPTAIN OF THE SQUAD

I'm 22, brown hair, blue eyes, and a body that's been sculpted from years of cheerleading. I love watching sports with a group of friends at the local bar, but I can also be found shopping on Newbury St. Have a good, honest heart!

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92.5 The River and Redhook Brewery present 20th Anniversary

Portsmouth BLUES Festival

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James Cohen, Bob Halperin & More!

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Saturday, August 27th Noon-8:00 P.M.
Produced by the Blues Bank Collective in collaboration with
The Redhook Brewery & 92.5 the River

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The Press Room
Inn On The Blues
The Redhook Brewery
Acoustic Outfitters
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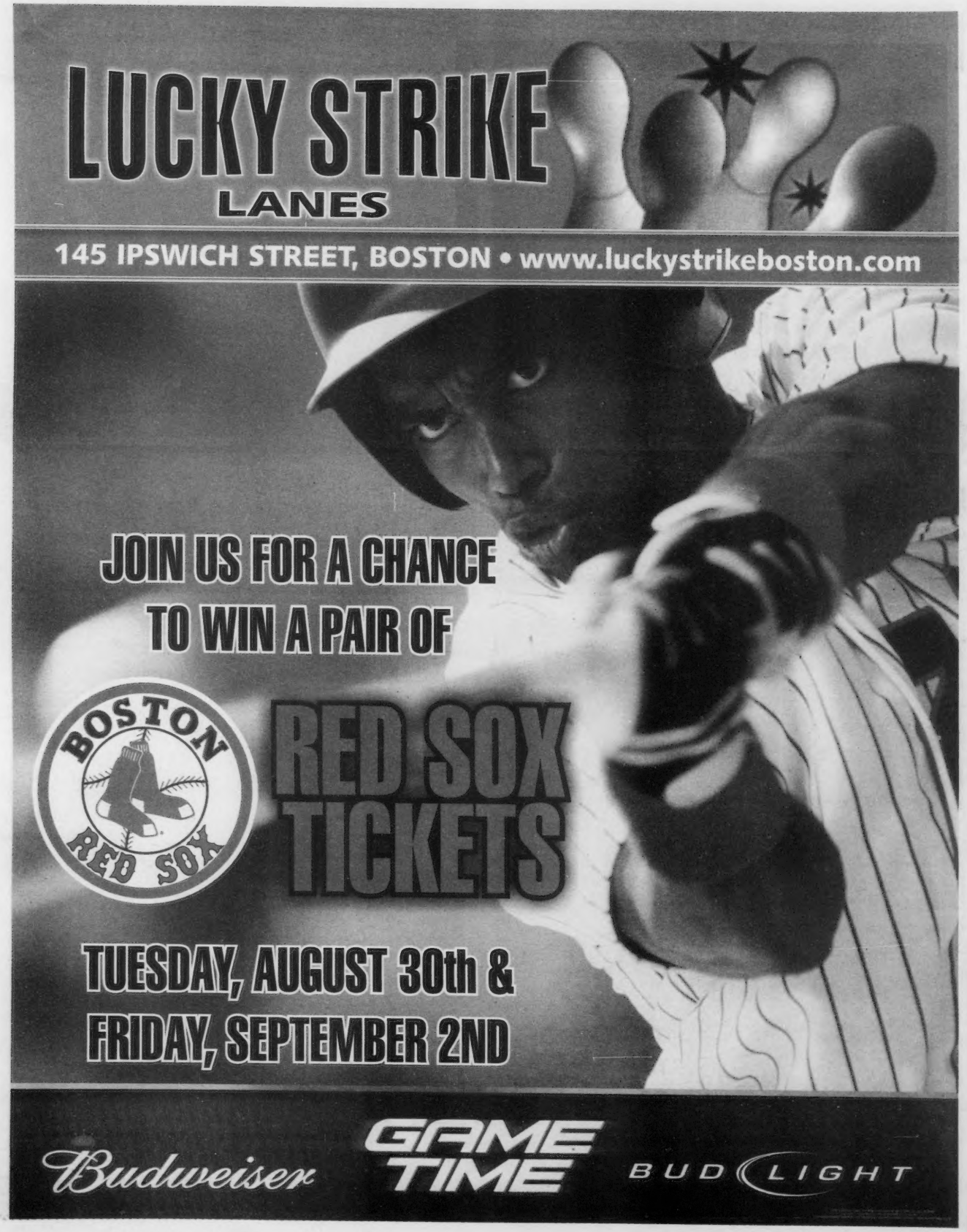
Or Online At www.bluesbankcollective.org

$25 In Advance
$30 At the Door

RAIN OR SHINE!
Please no food, drinks or coolers.

The Portsmouth Blues Festival is supported in part by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.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MUSIC CLUBS + CONCE

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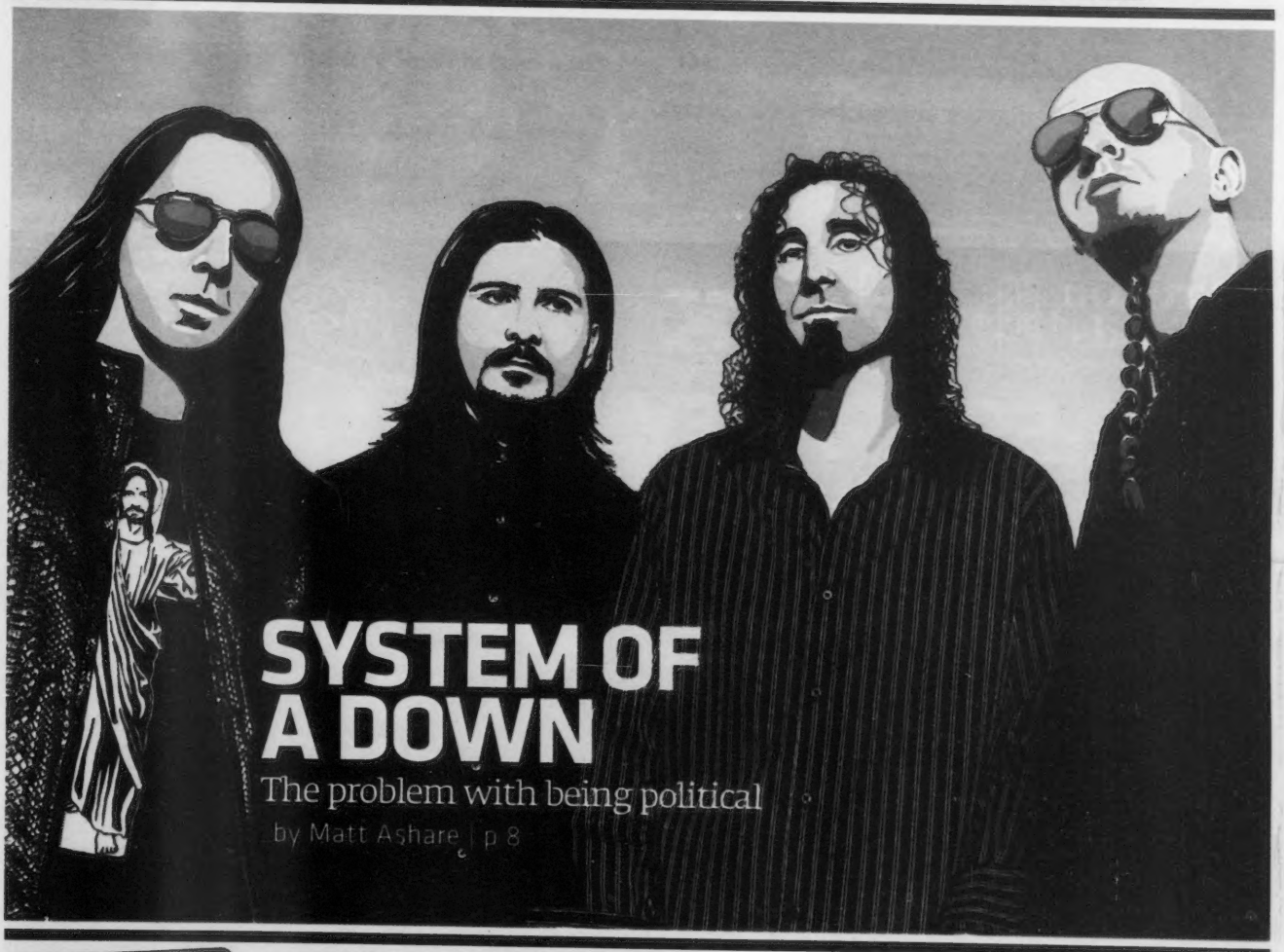
THE RAMONES

See p 14



SYSTEM OF A DOWN

The problem with being political

by Matt Ashare | p 8

CELLARS **A WILHELM SCREAM**
Hypersonic punk/metal blitz | p 7

NEW COLUMNS
'Circuits' + 'Notes' | p 6

Bretton Woods Mountain Resort

101.7 FNX TRUE ALTERNATIVE

PRE-SOX PARTY with Bode Miller!

Hey Red Sox Nation! 101.7 WFNX has partnered with Game On! (82 Lansdowne St. Boston) **and Bretton Woods Mountain Resort for a very special event!**

Sunday, August 28th
11am - 1:30pm

World Cup champion skier and director of skiing at Bretton Woods **Bode Miller** will be on hand signing autographs, talking about skiing, and handing out great prizes! **Everyone in attendance will receive a $20 OFF lift ticket coupon and be entered to win a ski and stay package at Mt. Washington Resort.**

SoundBites

THE WEEK IN MUSIC AND OTHER AUDIBLE TREATS

_COMPILED BY CARLY CARIOLI

FREE STUFF

JEFF PITCHELL | August 25 at Boston Harbor Hotel | 6 pm | 617.439.7000 | **MARK ERELLI TRIO** | August 26 at the Harborwalk outside the Children's Museum, Boston | noon | 617.269.3677 | **JESSE McCARTNEY** | August 27 at the DCR Hatch Shell, Boston | 6 pm | 617.931.1108 | **"BANGHRA BASH: THE ARTS OF INDIA"** | DJ Dhakfu + videographer Chris Andrews + dance by Noor-e-Punjab | August 27 in Union Square, Somerville | 6 pm | 617.513.6755 | **"ACTION SUNDAY"** | Punk + garage + rock with DJs Dinos + Amy | August 28 at River Gods, Cambridge | 9 pm | 617.576.1881 | **JENIFER JACKSON** | August 28 at Toad, Cambridge | 7 pm | 617.497.4950 | **ERIN McKEOWN** | August 31 in the South Garden at the Prudential Center, Boston | 12:30 pm | 800.352.9250 | **BRITT KIRK** | August 31 at McIntyre and Moore Booksellers, Somerville | 7:30 pm | 617.629.4840

THURSDAY 25

INDIE
Philadelphia's Tara Burke, who makes enchanted mediæval goth-psych records under the name **FURSAXA**, headlines a women-of-crypto-folk revue at Zeitgeist Gallery, care of Non-Event and the Berwick Research Institute. You also get Zaimph, the ritualistic electro-acoustic solo project of Marcia Bassett, and a solo-guitar performance by Charalambides's Christina Carter, at 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge | 7 pm | $8 | 617.876.6060.

HIP-HOP
When he's not teaming with Esoteric, 7L helms the **"GROWN FOLKS PARTY"** at Enormous Room with DJs Tall Matt and Beyonder — a party that's nabbed him a pair of "Best Local DJ" nods in our annual readers' poll. That's at 567 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 617.491.5550.

LOCAL ROCK
If this turns out to be the year that Merge-style Amerindie rock makes a comeback, the **BEATINGS** are in the right place at the right time, sounding more than ever like a really pissed-off Superchunk. They offer a sneak peek at their forthcoming Paul Kolderie–produced album with a teaser EP, *If Not Now, Then When?*, which they'll release tonight when they appear at T.T. the Bear's Place with Caspian, Barnicle, and the Subject | 10 Brookline St, Cambridge | 617.492.BEAR.

RADIO RAHIM

Rahim

SATURDAY | They're from Brooklyn by way of Long Island, and they've already signed to French Kiss (Les Savy Fav, the Hold Steady, and the Ex Models), but Rahim were raised on the post-hardcore sounds of the DC scene. They even got J Robbins of Jawbox to produce their new *Jungles* EP, a teaser for an '06 album. They're at T.T. the Bear's Place with their superbly spastic label mates Thunderbirds Are Now! plus home-town faves Cyanide Valentine and the Information | 10 Brookline St, Cambridge | 617.492.BEAR.

FRIDAY 26

METAL
Dave Mustaine refuses to rust in peace. Decades after penning a couple of the greatest speedmetal albums of all time — mostly out of spite at getting kicked out of the soon-to-be-biggest rock band in the world — **MEGADETH**'s sole permanent member is still riding the tortured-genius shtick pretty hard. But his "people hate me because of you" moment in Metallica's *Some Kind of Monster* was a breakthrough of sorts, and though we're not gonna insult your intelligence by claiming the last 'deth album was great, it was a hell of a lot better than *St. Anger*. Plus, Mustaine fired the career guys who'd been coasting with him over the past decade in favor of the young hired guns he's always done his best work with. Megadeth headline Mustaine's "Gigantour" with Dream Theater, Fear Factory, Dillinger Escape Plan, and Nevermore at Bank of America Pavilion, Northern Ave near the World Trade Center, Boston | $35-$45 | 617.931.2000.

BROADWAY
At press time, **IDINA MENZEL**, who rated a Tony nomination playing the sassy bisexual Maureen in *Rent* and then won a Tony for her role as the Wicked Witch of the West in *Wicked*, is at the Regattabar for four shows this weekend; the first is sold out, but if you act fast, you can still get into tonight's late show (9:30) or the two tomorrow. That's in Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett Street, Cambridge | 617.395-7757.

SATURDAY 27

COUNTRY
In most parts of the country, **TOBY KEITH** needs no introduction, but since you skinny little traitors hate Red State music, here's the scoop: Toby's got a huge single right now with "As Good As I Once Was," a kissing cousin to his already-classic "I Love This Bar," and most of the Route 1 cowgirls are still line-dancing to his rad Buffett-country single "Stays in Mexico" from last year. In between, he had a rare but deserved flop with "Honkytonk U," from his current *Honkytonk University*, but he's still planning on schooling your ass when he shows up with LeAnn Womack and Shooter Jennings at the Tweeter Center, Mansfield | $28.50-$64.75 | 617.931.2000.

METAL
Are **SYSTEM OF A DOWN** the best thing to happen to heavy metal since Metallica shit the bed? Matt Ashare picks two of the strangest brains in rock on page 8. And the band's tour — featuring tracks from their new *Mesmerize*, as well as its forthcoming companion *Hypnotize* — stops at the DCU Center, bringing with it the Mars Volta and Bad Acid Trip. That's at 50 Foster St, Worcester | 7 pm | $37.50-$45 | 617.931.2000.

SUNDAY 28

ROCK
The Great Northwest has a history of harboring infamous garage-rockers dating back to the Sonics, and into the '90s bands from Bangs to the Makers remained firmly ensconced in Olympia. The latest such group is the **OLD HAUNTS**, who draw members from a bunch of other indie bands — Serum Grays, Two Ton-Boa, Enemymine, and Mocket — and have a new Kill Rock Stars disc called *Fallow Field*. If you've ever thought you might sacrifice a smidge of Jack White's ballyhoo'd songcraft in exchange for a kick-ass rhythm section, you're in luck, since they're coming to Great Scott with the Creeping Nobodies and Helms | 1222 Comm Ave, Allston | 617.566.9014.

Continued on p 4

SoundBites

My Chemical Romance

HOT TIX

AMOS LEE | October 7 at Somerville Theatre, Somerville | $17.50 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **LES NUBIANS** | October 10 at Somerville Theatre, Somerville | $15 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **AVENGED SEVENFOLD** | October 25 at the Palladium, Worcester | $15 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 800.477.6849 | **DRESDEN DOLLS** | October 31 at Avalon, Boston | $22.25 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **BRIGHT EYES + FEIST** | November 22 at the Palladium, Worcester | $25 | on sale Friday at 10 am | 800.477.6849 | **JUDAS PRIEST + ANTHRAX** | October 7 at Tsongas Arena, Lowell | $38.50 | on sale Friday at noon | 617.931.2000 | **MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE** | October 15 at Tsongas Arena, Lowell | $20 | on sale Saturday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **THE ROLLING STONES** | January 13 at the TD Banknorth Garden, Boston | $60-$450 | on sale Saturday at 10 am | 617.931.2000 | **SAGE FRANCIS** | October 6 at the Roxy, Boston | $15 | 617.931.2000 | **ATMOSPHERE** | October 13 at the Roxy, Boston | $18.50 | 617.931.2000

Continued from p 3

MONDAY 29

DJ

Harvard educator, dancehall scholar, blogger, and DJ Wayne Marshall, a/k/a **WAYNE AND WAX**, drops into the weekly "Beat Research" night at Enormous Room to spin a bit of history: his DJ set will trace a single pattern, the "Mad Mad" riddim, from its first appearance — Alton Ellis's 1967 Studio One-produced "Mad Mad Mad" — through more than three decades of reggae, dancehall, hip-hop, and reggaeton offshoots. Check Camille Dodero's interview with Marshall in the News section, or just show up at Enormous Room, 567 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 617.491.5550.

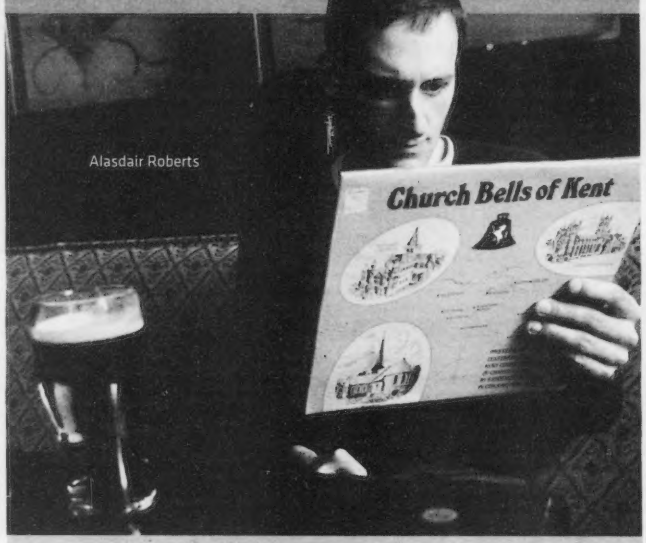
INDIE

If sharing stages with Bright Eyes, Neko Case, Spoon's Britt Daniel, and Grandaddy is worth anything, then Austin singer-songwriter **CHRIS MCFARLAND** is doing something right. He's at the Abbey Lounge with Chop Chop and Yvette Graveline | 3 Beacon St, Somerville | 617.441.9631.

POP

Sure, **AVRIL LAVIGNE**'s second album did pretty good — half as well as the first one, which is about what everyone expected — but at age 20 she's watching protégée and label mate Kelly Clarkson take over the heavy lifting of putting out pop-to-rock crossover smashes. Lavigne's at the end of her second summer touring behind *Under My Skin*, and you wonder whether she doesn't wish she hadn't made it quite so heavy, especially in a season when the Ashlees and the Hilarys of the world are having so much fun with the fluffy stuff. Which could be why Av's taken to covering "Smells like Teen Spirit" She's at the Tweeter Center in Mansfield with Gavin DeGraw and Butch Walker | 7 pm| $36-$46 | 617.931.2000.

FROM INDIE TO FOLK



Alasdair Roberts

WEDNESDAY | Alasdair Roberts should just start filing his albums under "World Music: Celtic" instead of "indie rock." Ever since he parted ways with Appendix Out and began recording on his own, the stoic Scotsman has drifted closer and closer to the trad songs of the British Isles, like some across-the-pond analogue to Will Oldham and his Appalachian fetish. Which may be why Roberts traveled to Kentucky to have Oldham produce his new collection of death ballads, *No Earthly Man* (Drag City). Roberts plays solo, on a bill with Wooden Wand & the Vanishing Voice and Milo Jones, at P.A.'s Lounge, 345 Somerville Ave, Somerville | 617.776.1557.

TUESDAY 30

ROCK

Apparently the **THIEVES** were just too damn American-sounding to make a go of it in their home town of Oxford — the one in England, not Mississippi. So they resettled in California, hooked up with the shitkicking sleaze-rock label Liquor and Poker, and recorded a Stooged-out album — *Tales from the White Line* — that's due in early October. They'll bring their long hair and wah-wah guitars to Bill's Bar as part of what promises to be grueling two-month tour | 5.5 Lansdowne St, Boston | 617.421.9678.

POP

AMY MILES could be the next Liz Phair–style indie queen: she's got a great sense of humor and solid rock credentials (in other projects, she's a frequent collaborator with *SNL*'s Amy Poehler and Shudder To Think's Craig Werden), and her *Noble Hatch* (Redeye), a paean to the first teenage delinquent to break her heart, landed her an appearance on Jimmy Kimmel's show last week. Miles is at the Paradise Lounge as part of the Boston Pop Underground Cabaret hosted by Ad Frank | 969 Comm Ave, Boston | 10 pm | 617.562.8814.

JAZZ

Yes, pianist **ARUÁN ORTIZ** was born in Cuba, but it would be misleading to call him a "Cuban jazz musician." He's a jazz musician, period. Now based in Boston (and teaching at Berklee, natch) Ortiz, working on the new *Aruán Ortiz Trio, Vol. 1* (Pimienta/Universal) with Bulgarian bassist Peter Slavov and fellow Cuban-American Francisco Mela, extends the piano-trio tradition that goes back to Nat King Cole, Oscar Peterson's '50s recordings, Ahmad Jamal, and the free interplay of Bill Evans and Paul Bley. For Ortiz, as for all of those great trio leaders, composition and ensemble cohesion are more important than his own estimable virtuosity. And his 10-minute solo "Se Vale Soñar" puts him in another category altogether — his own. The Ortiz trio plays Scullers, in the DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road at the Mass Pike | 617.562.4111.

WEDNESDAY 31

ROCK

There are times when you wanna smack the English accent out of their mouths (leave it on stage, duders), but usually not while the Californians in **LOUIS XIV** are turning the very British camp and lechery of '70s glam into an American rock-and-roll fantasy. An orgy of T. Rex licks, AC/DC homages, and sadistic sexual imperialism, their Atlantic breakthrough album *The Best Little Secrets Are Kept* is what asshole rock stars were born to sound like. They join Ike Reilly and the Gentlemen at the Paradise, 967 Comm Ave, Boston | 7 pm | $12.50 | 617.562.8800.

THURSDAY 1

ROCK

The swampy, doom-sludge power trio is nearly extinct these days, and even power quartets are hard to find. Sure, the Melvins are good for a tossed-off grindfest every couple of years, but in terms of bands who're still trying to write songs louder than Fudge Tunnel and blacker than Nirvana's *Bleach*, well, there's the Oakland three-piece **TOTIMOSHI** and then there's everyone else. Touring behind their new *Mysterioso* (Crucial Blast), they're at Great Scott, 1222 Comm Ave, Allston | 617.566.9014.

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2_ **DANE COOK, *RETALIATION*** [Comedy Central]
3_ **STAIND, *CHAPTER V*** [Atlantic]
4_ **BRONSON ARROYO, *COVERING THE BASES*** [Asylum]
5_ **A WILHELM SCREAM, *RUINER*** [Nitro]
6_ **DROPKICK MURPHYS, *WARRIOR'S CODE*** [Hellcat]
7_ **DANE COOK, *HARMFUL IF SWALLOWED*** [Comedy Central]
8_ **DOOMRIDERS, *BLACK THUNDER*** [Deathwish, Inc.]
9_ **JULIANA HATFIELD, *MADE IN CHINA*** [Ye Olde Records]
10_ **WALTHAM** [Rykodisc]

Beats per minutemen

UNLOCKED GROOVE GETS CONNECTED, AND SATELLITE RECORDS CHANGES HANDS

CIRCUITS _BY DAVID DAY

Despite the press's disinterest and Boston's endemic rock-town posturing, the MIT-bred DJ collective **UNLOCKED GROOVE** has thrived and grown for almost five years: it now encompasses some dozen artists who collaborate, share sounds and trade secrets, and combine their promotional power to spread the word on one another's events, gigs, and recordings. (The whole gang gather every Friday at River Gods in Cambridgeport; the individual members play all around New England.) The brand of minimal techno favored by UG has recently come into vogue, appearing on the playlists of some of the world's top DJs. But though such music is often stereotyped as solemn – made and consumed by solitary units in lonely bedrooms – Unlocked Groove is a social animal with the shared idea that minimal can be communal and, most important, fun. In Boston, it was UG that brought this music out of the bedroom and into the street. And the collective may finally be about to come into its own, with debut releases coming soon on a newly minted Unlocked Groove record label.

UG had its roots in an eponymous radio show on WMBR hosted by Cameron Marlowe; Marlowe also formed an 'MBR show with Dan Paluska called *Electronic Experiments* dedicated to electronic music made live on the air. And Paluska helped design the Fotron 2000, a light-drawing robot that produced the cover art for the Juan Maclean's *Less Than Human*. The duo graduated to throwing underground parties at the old Fallon ambulance garage, at 324 Mass Ave in Cambridge, and "sort of forced our way in," says Marlowe, at the Cellar, a legit club that hosted their first weekly night, "The Appliance of Science." AoS continued for more than a year with weekly guests, some of whom (Stewart Walker, Greg Schiff) have gone on to greater heights. Meanwhile, word about Unlocked Groove was spreading, and the crew grew to include New England Conservatory's Jay Flower (a/k/a Keepalive) and Mike Uzzi (a/k/a Smartypants), MIT's Ben Recht (a/k/a Localfields) and Heemin Yang, and long-time Boston-based producer Todd Gys.

As you might expect from an MIT-centric group, Unlocked Groove is well schooled in new technology: these guys have the most current software and the latest samples, and share it via an Internal file-swapping network, or "filepile." (They're also known to swap people: Recht and Uzzi sometimes perform as Localpants; Marlowe and Yang team up in Scorchio.) Unlike collectives that might favor one genre, Unlocked Groove's music spans dub, techno, and trance but sticks with a particular sound: minimal, smart, and bubbly. No matter what the members are up to, that clean, techy vibe is a trademark. "I feel like we're pulling each other in different directions instead of agreeing on what's 'cool' or 'hip'," Marlowe says. "But at the same time we're not being drawn and quartered by a difference of taste." That's reflected in the first Unlocked Groove 12-inch EP, which features four songs from six UG members. Test pressings came back this week, so it's on schedule for a fall release. Another 12-inch due in the winter will have cuts from Scorchio (Yang and Marlowe are at River Gods this Friday, August 26), with a remix by Fred Gianelli. It may seem like a modest beginning, but as Uzzi chuckles, "We're not necessarily profit-oriented. We want to put out quality dance music [records]. We want people to play them. And we want people to like them."

SATELLITE RECORDS, one of the nation's premier dance-music and DJ-gear outlets, last week announced via e-mail that it was divesting its three retail shops in New York, Boston, and Atlanta to focus on its on-line operation. **PAT FONTES**, manager of the Boston store, will soon become its owner. Fontes says the e-mail came as a surprise but the sale is "about 85 percent confirmed." And in financial terms, he continues, "it's a good thing because it's all brand new. We can start off with a clean slate. I'm trying to pump whatever I can to keep the store alive. I'm into banging, man." Respect the architect . . . **FREEZEPOP** have a new 12-inch. The synthcore groop expand their sound on this dainty, limited-edition, silkscreened slab. With three remixes and a cover of Depeche Mode's "Photographic" (plus an autograph!), the $15 price almost seems like a bargain.

David Day is the label manager for Forced Exposure and one-half of sQuare productions. You can find him behind the decks Thursdays at Middlesex Lounge and Fridays at Enormous Room | circuits@squar3.com

CLUB SHOT _BY TIA CARIOLI

MOTHERBOAR'S BRIAN CONNOR August 21 at "Hellgate" in Allston.

Smitten

GETTING CHARMED BY SPOON AND A STONE

OUT _BY ELISABETH DONNELLY

A free Hatch Shell show on the banks of the Charles River is a test of rock-and-roll fortitude: there's muddy sound, the band members invariably look like ants, and the audience comprises high-school students, aging hipsters with toddlers, and just-out-of-work twentysomethings in "Defend Allston" T-shirts. A week ago Thursday, Spoon proved up to the challenge while openers Longwave were underwhelming. The latter played a bland set of wanna-be U2/Coldplay arena rock that might possibly work in a club. Outdoors, the guitars blended into one another, and the native New Yorkers deemed the seated audience "ornery."

The sky was opalescent as Spoon came out to school the kids in how nervy, dynamic rock can translate into open-air nights. Britt Daniel, a stretched-out sexy elf of a frontman with a Southern swagger, wore his typical fitted shirt and played ragged guitar to go with his hoarse-from-touring voice. "The Beast and Dragon, Adored" and the Rolling Stones-ish riff of "I Turn My Camera On" brought that ornery crowd to its feet. And as the sun set, Spoon returned for an encore. "Josh says this is rock 'n' roll time," Daniel noted. "It's just getting dark." The band said goodnight with a quick and nasty "Metal Detecktor" and "Jonathan Fisk" before curfew. The ending was slightly anti-climatic, and as the crowd dispersed onto the streets and the T, the Red Line to Braintree was overtaken by garrulous teenagers. One of them was overheard rating Britt's pop "pretty good, although I mostly listen to punk rock."

Where would some of Spoon's best riffs be without the Stones' Ronnie Wood? This topic did not come up for discussion at the opening last Friday night of Wood's art show at 29 Newbury Street. As Stones songs like "Street Fighting Man" and "Miss You" (the latter made the band's soundcheck that night over at Fenway Park) alternated with canned muzak over the loudspeaker, a well-heeled crowd ate cheese and talked about Wood's work. Oddest Wood portrait subject: Sid Vicious. The artist himself was not there, though buyers were promised a meeting with him at a later date. (Wood couldn't appear at the event because of his security requirements.) Attendees in suits and Chucks discussed Stones side projects; the only woman in a rhinestone Stones shirt asked the only dude in a Stones T-shirt whether he was going to the shows over the weekend. He was Italian; a halting conversation about Stones fandom ensued.

Elisabeth Donnelly | elisabeth.donnelly@hotmail.com

HOME BODIES

Conceived as an Adidas promotional item, the book ***BEDROOM ROCKERS*** is now getting a hardcover pressing. Subtitled "Where DJs Call Home," the tome surveys five cities: Miami, New York, Washington, Portland (Oregon), and Boston. The Hub section has features on **DJ BRUNO**, **EDAN**, **DJ KON**, **DALI**, and eight others.

More is more

A WILHELM SCREAM PILE ON THE PUNK HARMONIES WITH *RUINER*

CELLARS BY STARLIGHT

_BY WILL SPITZ

It was about five summers ago that I stopped going to the Warped Tour. The heat, the throngs of kids, the short sets, the increasing corporateness of the whole thing — I'd had enough. But last Monday morning, as I headed west on the Mass Pike toward the Northampton Fairgrounds for my first Warped show since high school, I was excited, mainly about this year's abundance of local reps: Dropkick Murphys, Street Dogs, the Receiving End of Sirens, Big D & the Kids Table, Roxi Monoxide, Frequency Needs a Mate, and Gone by Daylight, among others.

NORTHAMPTON OR BUST? Not everyone made it to Warped in time, but that's not likely to stop AWS.

It's about 100 miles from Boston to Northampton. Figuring in the inevitable concert traffic, I gave myself what seemed a reasonable two and a half hours to get there. Some six hours later, more than four of which I spent at a standstill, I finally got out of my car in the "authorized personnel only" parking area. (According to John Peters of MassConcerts, the show's promoters, there were two lots in addition to the full one that I was denied entrance to. Apparently, the officer who misinformed me that there was "no more parking" wasn't aware of the other two lots.) After the show, Peters was apologetic, explaining that there were alternate routes to the Fairgrounds that would've alleviated some of the traffic problems but that the local police wouldn't allow them to be used. He added that this was probably the last time Warped would go to Northampton.

One of the bands I most wanted to catch was New Bedford's A Wilhelm Scream, who formed in 1996 and were known as Smackin' Isaiah until 2001. I wasn't the only one who missed their set.

"I know that none of my friends made it to the show," guitarist Trevor Reilly lamented afterward. "It really sucks." Nevertheless, he says it was probably the biggest crowd AWS have played for. "I have a feeling that a lot of people who were there were watching us because they had heard a lot about us probably, a lot of hype surrounding us or whatever. But as far as the kids who would've jumped the barricade, I have a feeling that a lot of those kids did not make it." No matter, he adds, because "whoever comes out to see us, it's a fucking blast. Always."

And people have been going out to see the band in droves lately, in large part because of the huge response garnered by last year's *Mute Print*, their debut for Nitro Records, the Huntington Beach (California) label owned by the Offspring's Dexter Holland. The band — Reilly, vocalist Nuno Pereira, drummer Nick Angelini, guitarist Chris Levesque, and bassist Jon Teves, who was replaced by Curtiss Lopez earlier this year — made the album with recording vets Bill Stevenson, the former drummer for the Descendants, Black Flag, and All, and Jason Livermore at the pair's Blasting Room studio in Fort Collins, Colorado. A hypersonic punk/metal blitz brimming with Iron Maiden–inspired guitarmonies and soaring vocal harmonies reminiscent of Bad Religion, it earned them legions of fans across the country and overseas. After its release, the band toured the US and even joined Strike Anywhere on a jaunt through Japan. "It was incredible," says Reilly. "They didn't speak English, but they knew the words to the songs — very bizarre."

Although all the touring helped spread the gospel of A Wilhelm Scream, it didn't allow the band much time to work on a follow-up. "We wrote most of it on the road," Reilly explains. "I have a little tape recorder and I just jotted down ideas. When we got home — we were home for about a month — I took all the ideas that I had and I went to the four-track. So it went from the little tape recorder to the four-track and from the four-track it went to the demos. I wrote most of it that way."

Although they were happy with the response to *Mute Print*, AWS were determined to move forward. "For the new record, it was like, 'What do we like about *Mute Print*? How could we make it better and bigger and badder and faster and more crazy?' "

In April, they returned to the Blasting Room with Stevenson and Livermore to record *Ruiner*, which came out on August 16, the day after their Warped show. They hadn't found a suitable all-ages venue for the planned CD-release party in New Bedford, but a not-too-shabby alternative arrived when the Offspring asked AWS to open for them at CBGB's that Tuesday, one of the series of benefit shows to save the legendary New York club from eviction.

And *Ruiner* is indeed better and bigger and badder and faster and more crazy. The arrangements are complex and unpredictable, everybody often stopping on a dime or making a hairpin turn. With a few exceptions, notably the Reilly-sung "In Vino Veritas II," the material is played at a breakneck pace. The drums are deep and loud and the guitars and bass are as thick as a triple cheeseburger. Chalk that up to the time — nearly a month — they were able to spend in the studio, about three times what they had for *Mute Print*.

"We've always thought more is more," Reilly points out. "The more cool shit to listen to, the better. With every record, there's been a lot of singing. You can attribute that to a lot of the bands that we grew up idolizing" — bands like Maiden, Bad Religion, and NOFX. "It's like, 'Hey, we know harmonies now. Let's fucking do them. Wherever it's tasteful, wherever it belongs, if we can do it, let's fucking do it. And then let's pull it off live, which is just as important.'

"Every new recording you make has to blow away your last one. The day we make a worse record than our last one is the day I wanna fucking stop, start something new." ◉

Notes

_BY SARAH TOMLINSON

ERIC LEVIN/ELEVIN NET

The Charms

When on September 7 the **CHARMS** head out on their first US tour, they'll have coast-to-coast radio and TV support. Sort of. Their "Pussycat" is now playing in a national ad campaign for the Jim Jarmusch/Bill Murray film *Broken Flowers*. Meanwhile, home-town fans can enjoy a coffee-themed version of the Charms' "Action" in a campy ad for the Massachusetts-based chain Marylou's that's been airing on Channel 7 . . . Those purveyors of stylish rock **ABERDEEN CITY** will have reason to rejoice at their show tonight (August 25) at the Middle East: the band's *Sixty Lives* EP jumped nearly 70 spots on the *CMJ* Top 200 chart earlier this month. Their debut full-length, *The Freezing Atlantic*, is due October 25 on NYC-based Dovecote Records . . . Cabaret-punk favorites the **DRESDEN DOLLS** pulled the plug on a slew of late-summer European festival dates, including the venerable Reading and Leeds, at the request of drummer Brian Viglione. Instead, Amanda Palmer spent last week playing solo in Scotland. The duo will continue recording their second album next month with Paul Kolderie and Sean Slade at Allaire Studios in upstate New York and Camp Street Studios in Cambridge. A two-week US headlining tour follows, culminating with the Dolls' annual Halloween-night soiree at Avalon . . . Revered art punks **MISSION OF BURMA** will also enter the studio late next month to record the follow-up to *OnOFFon* with producer/fourth member **BOB WESTON**. All new material, the as-yet-untitled disc will include songs debuted at recent shows . . . New Bedford continues to gun for the title of Massachusetts new-rock mecca. In the wake of nitro yowlers A Wilhelm Scream and thrash-metal kids Beyond the Embrace, the town's newest home-town pride is the power-pop quartet **ROOFTOP SUICIDE CLUB**. Brought up on a diet of "Wilco, Big Star, and Air Supply," the group last week released a debut CD, *Always like This* (Stop Pop and Roll), that they'll support every Tuesday night next month at the Abbey Lounge . . . Dropkick Murphys frontman Al Barr's old band the **BRUISERS** have announced a reunion show September 14 at the Roxy. It's their only New England appearance and their first local show in five years. They'll be joined by the **CASUALTIES**, the **DUCKY BOYS**, and **TOMMY AND THE TERRORS**.

Sarah Tomlinson | stomlins@mindspring.com

Punk

"The biggest misconception is that we're all from Glendale."

Rock in a hard place

System of a Down's struggle to be themselves

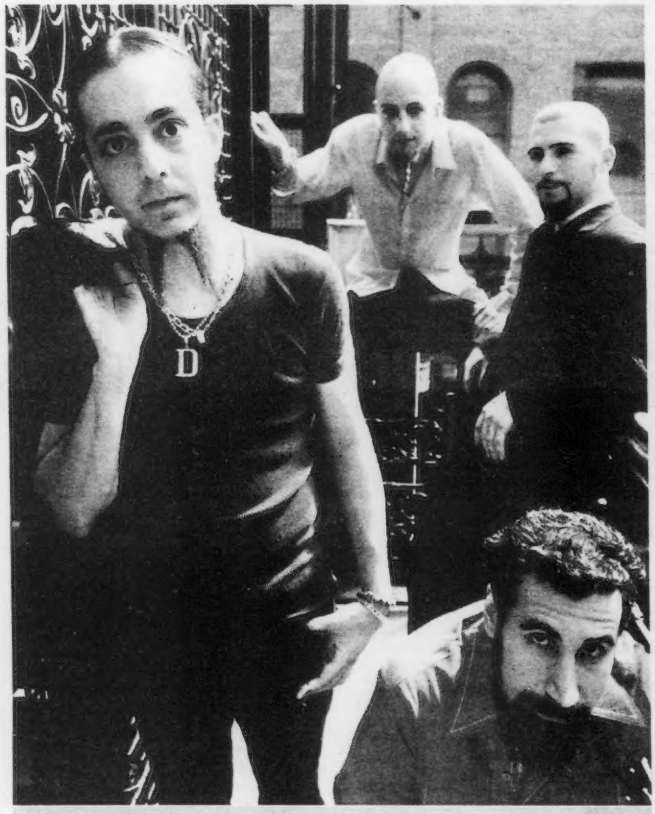
_BY MATT ASHARE

Four years ago, shortly after September 11, System of a Down frontman Serj Tankian posted a thoughtful, provocative, prescient essay titled "Understanding Oil." It attempted to place the events of 9/11 in historical context by explaining how US policy in the Middle East throughout the 20th century had invited such an attack. And it warned that a US military response could exacerbate the situation.

To anyone familiar with the explosive fusion of metallic guitars, politically charged lyrics, and a rap-rock delivery that had earned System of a Down's homonymous 1998 debut comparisons with Rage Against the Machine, "Understanding Oil" couldn't have come as too big a surprise. But as an LA band who'd emerged at the height of so-called new metal, System of a Down were also lumped in with bands like Incubus (with whom they toured early on), Korn, and Limp Bizkit. It wasn't until the band had released their second album, *Toxicity* (Columbia), on September 4, 2001, and "Understanding Oil" went up on their Web site that the full impact of Tankian's political stance was felt. In response to a wave of controversy that brought the band death threats, Tankian removed "Understanding Oil" and replaced it with a conciliatory note: "I would not be alive if not for the American orphanages that raised my grandfather after the Armenian Genocide of 1915, so I have a lot of love and respect for the good things that America has and can continue to achieve."

But Tankian, who founded the non-profit political organization Axis for Justice with Audioslave's Tom Morello, and his mates weren't ready to back down. In 2002 they released the full-length *Steal This Album* (Columbia), and earlier this year they followed that up with the chart-topping *Mezmerize* (Columbia), the first of a two-album salvo (*Hypnotize* is due in November) and a disc that opens with some of the band's most politically explosive lyrics. After a short, elegiac intro, "Soldier Side," the band tear into "B.Y.O.B.," which goes from tightly wound screamo verses with lyrics like "You depend on our protection yet you feed us lies from the tablecloth" into the melodic refrain "Everybody's going to the party have a real good time/ Dancing in the desert blowing up the sunshine." And the ending could have been pulled from a Dead Kennedys album: "Why don't presidents fight the war?/Why do they always send the poor?" It's hardly a retreat from "Understanding Oil." But System of a Down are hardly Tankian's bully pulpit, either. As both he and guitarist Daron Malakian (who co-writes and produces all of the band's material) point out when I catch them individually on the phone in the midst of a tour with the Mars Volta that brings them to Worcester's DCU Center this Saturday, there's more to SOAD then politics.

"I'd rather let the music speak for itself," Tankian says. "When people just talk about politics, it becomes one-dimensional. But when people talk about politics as part of the larger picture, it's fine. It's a tough road, not because of the reactions or condemnations or program directors dropping our single, which happened when *Toxicity* came out and I made that 'Understanding Oil' statement, but because things like that can just blow up in your face. I mean, I was just trying to make sense of the 9/11 situation. I was like, 'What the fuck, you can't even say what you think.' Since then we've kept to our own. We do our own thing. People don't expect us to be silent. Yet we also don't want to be anybody's political voice. If anything, I want people to know us not just as a political band. You know, the Beatles spoke out against the Vietnam War. But no one remembers them as just a political band, because they had love songs and quirky songs. And if you look at our albums, there are probably only two or three political songs out of 14 — the rest are either socially inclined, personal stories, theoretical excursions, or quirky shit. For example, I was doing another interview and the person said, 'What separates you from Rage Against the Machine?' I said, 'Our song "Bounce" is about a pogo-stick orgy.' That's what makes us different."



MISUNDERSTOOD? Politics is only part of the SOAD picture.

Indeed, once you get past *Mezmerize*'s opening salvo, Tankian and Malakian, with muscular support from bassist Shavo Odadjian and drummer John Dolmayan, embark on a tangled journey that's as confusing as it is compelling. "Revenga" is pop metal with prog refrains and stream-of-conscious-like lyrics; the pounding "Cigaro" opens with the high-pitched boast "My cock is much bigger than yours"; a clean guitar intro gives way to a playful, punchy wall of guitars that then transforms into a parody of a polka as Malakian sings, "Hey man, look at me rockin' out/I'm on the radio." Infectious eclecticism holds the album together, not a political slogan.

"System of a Down are one of the most misunderstood bands around," Malakian insists. "I mean, Armenian rock? What the fuck is that? Political? I could name so many more of our songs that aren't about politics than ones that are. And for a long time, everyone thought Serj wrote all of our tunes. Until this album came out, people thought he wrote all the lyrics. So there are so many different misunderstandings of System of a Down that I don't even let it bother me anymore. I'm just kind of used to it. Our first bio said something like 'four guys based out of LA who are Armenian and political,' and, well, it wasn't really right at all. I mean, we are all Armenian, but we didn't plan that."

As both Tankian and Malakian tell it, SOAD came together the way most bands do: they all played in different bands in and around the same scene (LA) until they found one another. That they all are of Armenian descent is, as they've explained from the start, a happy accident. "The biggest misconception is that we're all from Glendale," says Tankian. "None of us is from Glendale, but everyone I meet in LA assumes we're from Glendale because there's a huge Armenian community in Glendale. It's music that brought us together, not our culture. But our culture has helped to keep us together. There's a certain understanding and respect that we have for one another. But we all just learned of each other through other people we played with and through other bands breaking up and sharing rehearsal spaces. The fact that it worked out the way it has is a little strange. I do believe in partial destiny. I call it partial destiny because I believe that we have a hand in creating our own destiny. But I also believe that there is a direction that is given to us in the choices that we have. And we all picked ones that brought us together as a band."

Malakian, who does more singing on *Mezmerize* then he has on previous SOAD albums, and who seems to be more comfortable stepping forward as a spokesman, does feel that people are now getting to know System of a Down for who they are. "When we first started the band here in LA, Jane's Addiction was the band we looked up to. They came out at a time when there was a lot of glam rock and hair bands and they got put into that category, but they stood out because they were doing their own thing. We were kind of caught in the same kind of situation at another time: there were a lot of new-metal bands and we'd get put into that category even though we didn't fit. It's funny that now there's bands like Mars Volta doing this prog-rock thing that's kinda getting popular, people put us in that genre now. That may be closer to the truth, but I think *Hypnotized* is going to go further in terms of getting people to understand what we're doing." ⊙

System of a Down + the Mars Volta | DCU Center, 50 Foster St, Worcester | August 27 | 617.931.2000

Blues

Harp man

Paul Oscher goes down in the Delta

BY TED DROZDOWSKI

Paul Oscher knew his life was going to change his first day on the job with the Muddy Waters Band. Barely out of his teens, he'd been hired on the spot by Muddy when they'd met at Harlem's Apollo Theatre and the blues kingpin had heard Oscher's way with a harmonica. Oscher was the first musician the driver of Muddy's van picked up the morning of his initial tour with the group in 1967.

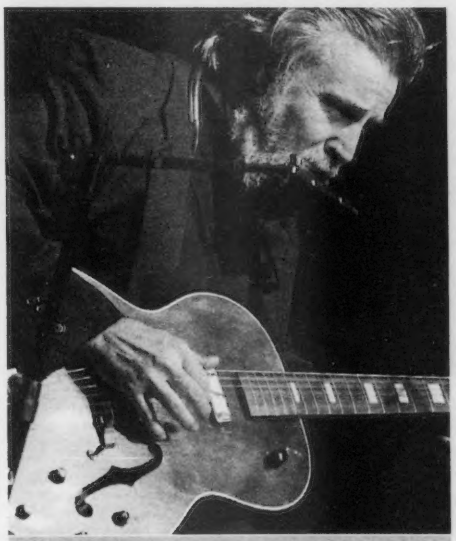
"I knew I was in for an education when Otis Spann and his wife got in at the next stop," recounts Oscher, whose new *Down in the Delta* (Blues Fidelity) is one of the year's elemental blues delights. "They sat down and Otis said, 'Baby, give me my shit.' She opened up her purse and pulled out a bottle of gin and a pistol. Otis tucked the pistol in his belt and took a long drink of the gin. This was at about six in the morning. I wondered what I'd gotten myself into."

As it turned out, Oscher, who integrated the Waters band, had gotten himself into the thick of the blues. There he stayed for five years. Even playing with Little Jimmy Mae in African-American New York City clubs like the Baby Grand and the Nitecap since he was 15 didn't prepare him for the experiences he'd have with Waters. He roomed in the legendary bluesman's house on Chicago's South Side along with Spann, who taught him piano. There he learned the music, the cuisine, and the culture from the inside. It wasn't always easy. He tells another story about the night Muddy used his own pistol to protect Oscher from a jealous man who'd blown his girlfriend's head off at Oscher's door.

But Oscher left Waters's group with priceless knowledge. Today, after years of personal struggles and drifting in and out of the music business, he's become a brilliant one-man variation on the ensemble sound that Muddy perfected, a sound based on steely slide-guitar leads, driving rhythms, rich-toned harmonica, and a style of singing just behind the beat that translates to the ears as a message straight from the Delta soil that Waters, when he was still McKinley Morganfield, farmed before he left the Mississippi plantation lands of Clarksdale for the North.

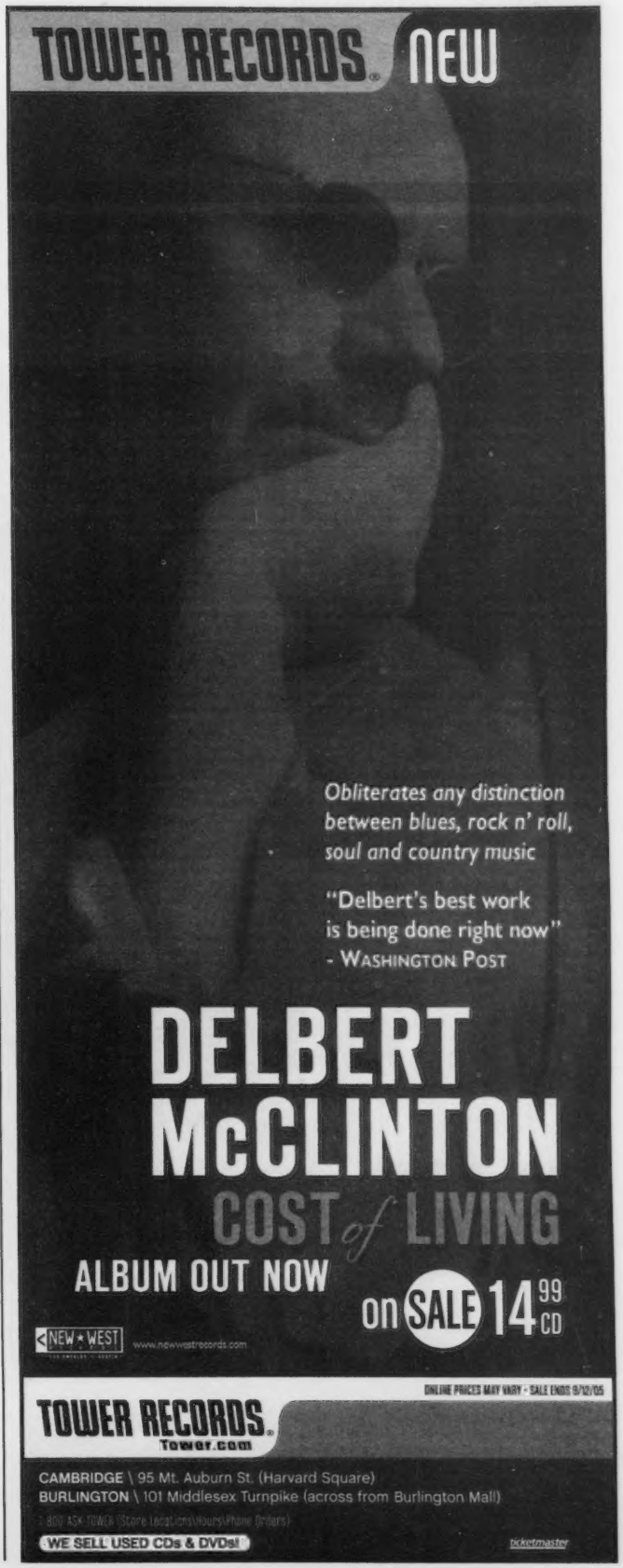
Down from the Delta, which follows Oscher's 2004 comeback *Alone with the Blues* (Electro-Fi), is mostly Oscher alone, and that's the way he likes it. "I've developed my own style of playing harp and guitar and singing that captures the sound that inspires me — the sound I heard on stage and learned how to get by watching Muddy and his great guitarists like Sammy Lawhorn, and playing with Spann down in Muddy's basement."

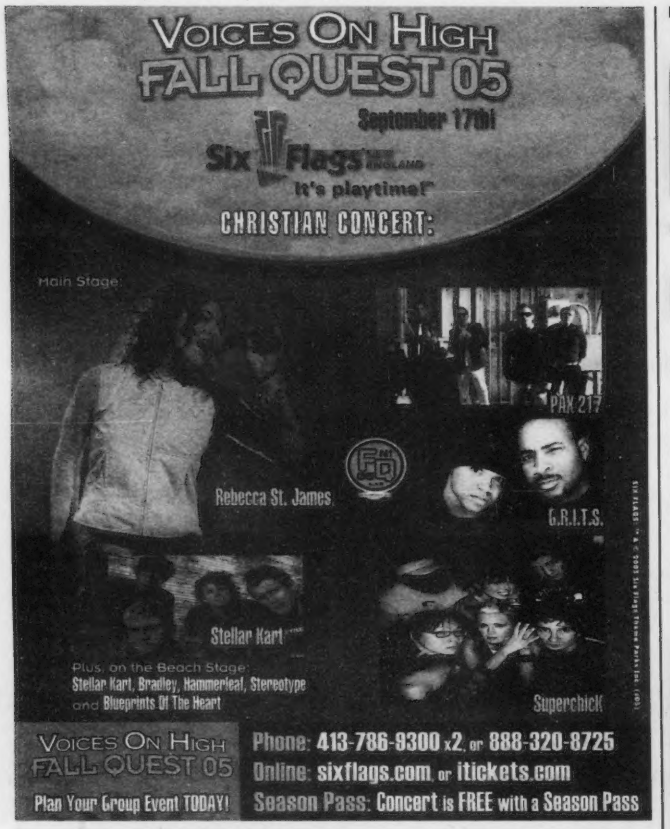
There *are* a few band cuts on the album. Some feature fellow Waters alums Willie "Big Eyes" Smith and bassist Calvin Jones, plus the Band's Levon Helm and MVPs like Spann disciple David Maxwell and bassist Mudcat Ward. But most of the magic's created by Oscher alone as he makes his slide emit stabbing cries like a child sobbing in the black Delta night or uses his harp to evoke ghostly voices. And his Southern-by-way-of-Brooklyn drawl rings convincing with every lonely twist of numbers like "Driftin' Blues" and "Blues Before Sunrise."



SOLID FOUNDATION Oscher cut his teeth as the first white man in Muddy Waters' band.

If those titles seem familiar, as do "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Take a Little Walk," it's because Oscher's mostly drawn on classics this time around. But don't call them covers. "To me, a cover is a note-for-note reproduction of a song, like what a Top 40 band would do. What I do without copying is capture the foundation of Muddy's music and put my own stamp on it. And I really need to improvise, so I have to be totally in the moment, not thinking about the past. I can't really listen to musicians that imitate. What's the point? They can't play it as well as Muddy and those guys did. Records by Muddy and Little Walter and those guys sound as alive today as the day they were recorded, because they were totally in the moment when they went into the studio. They didn't care about the past. And that's where you have to be to play this music with all your soul." ◉





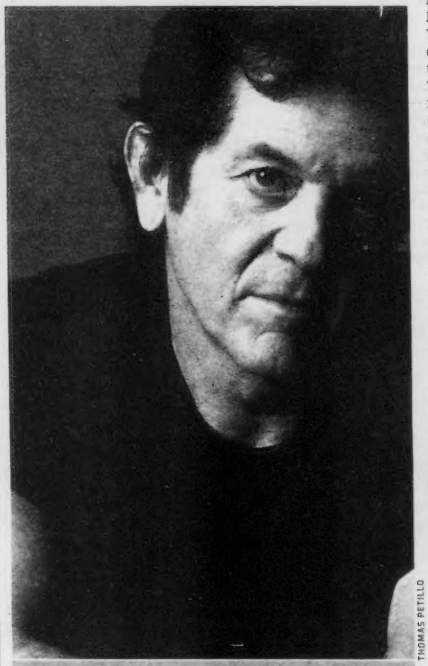
Rock

Outside in

Rodney Crowell finds his own voice

_BY TED DROZDOWSKI

Nashville-based songwriter Rodney Crowell's feisty new album is called *The Outsider* (Columbia), but don't take that title too much to heart. "I'm both an insider and an outsider," says Crowell, who plays Johnny D's with his quartet tonight, August 25. "I've worked very deliberately to cast my own mold, but my songs sometimes find their way through the big corporate machine I rail against every now and again and make me a really good paycheck."



THOMAS PETILLO

SPARE TALES - but unlike his previous albums, *The Outsider* is electric, and it rocks.

Recently his "Making Memories of Us" and "Please Remember Me" found their way to Keith Urban and Tim McGraw, respectively, who kicked them up the country charts. And his history of writing first-rate songs for others dates back to 1974, when he was barely 24 and the Alabama siren Emmylou Harris — who duets with Crowell on a cover of Dylan's "Shelter from the Storm" on the new CD — recorded " 'Til I Can Gain Control Again" and "Bluebird Wine" on her debut.

But these days Crowell, who's cut 11 of his own albums over 25 years, is more interested in making his own connections. The blunt, guitar-driven *Outsider* is part of his ongoing effort to rebuild himself. It began in 1991 when he and Rosanne Cash divorced and Crowell had to establish a new relationship with his four daughters; then he met his current wife. At the same time he was re-establishing ties with his dying mother and, as he puts it, "dismantling the persona I had built for myself, rejecting the things that weren't true to me."

In his writing, meanwhile, Crowell began to aim for language that was more precise and using the insights he was gaining. His autobiographical and moving 2001 album *The Houston Kid* (Sugar Hill) was followed by 2003's *Fate's Right Hand* (Sony). Like that pair, *The Outsider* tells spare tales of desire, frustration, and spiritual struggle. Unlike them, *The Outsider* is electric, and it rocks, carrying a torch ignited by his extensive tours of Europe last year fronting a two-guitars/bass/drums lineup — "Just," he observes, "like the Beatles."

There's a little of John Lennon's spirit in the title track and "The Obscenity Prayer (Give It to Me)," which find Crowell considering spiritual issues in concrete terms. The latter is a cracking critique of corporate greed tersely sung in the persona of a white-collar thug. "The Outsider" is more complicated, since, as Crowell explains, "the 'Outsider' is God. In the extreme shouting match between the far left and the far right, which would be groups like Muslim radicals and the Christian right, God was disenfranchised years and years and years ago. That's my point, although I've worked to veil it a bit. I want people to have to think about these songs. In 'Don't Get Me Started,' which is the closest I come to an outright political rant, I adopt the character of a guy at a bar who warns people, 'I can be a drag when I've had a few.' I don't want to manipulate the audience. The key to good storytelling is showing people, not telling them, what a song is about. When you're writing about world affairs, you need to focus on a story to humanize them. And when you're writing about a put-upon child, it's easy to drag out the fiddles to tell people they should be sad. I work hard to avoid that."

Crowell hasn't disowned his earlier work, but he has taken a step back. "I've always been happy with my songwriting, but for a long time I didn't want to hear myself. I didn't like what I heard. Now I think I've found my own voice, which is a cliché among us writer people, but I've learned that it's a cliché for a good reason." ®

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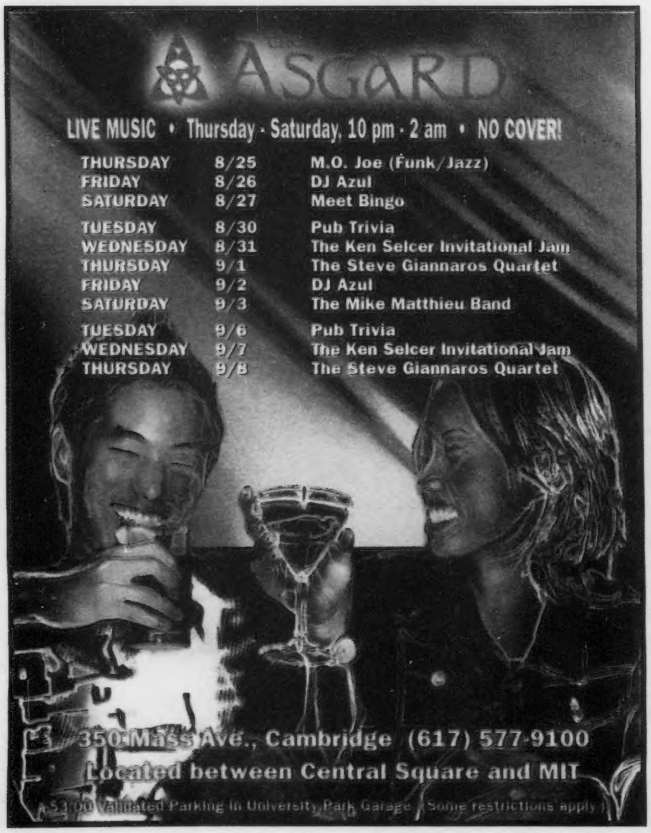

Britpop

Warped rock

Maxïmo Park's neo new wave

_BY TONY WARE

Last month, Maxïmo Park — a British post-punk band who take their name from a park in Havana where old men play dominoes and talk politics and their style from the new wave of regionally conscious nostalgists like Bloc Party, Futureheads, and Kaiser Chiefs — were short-listed for the Mercury Prize, which will be awarded September 6. They were one of the few surprises among the 12 nominees (who include Coldplay, Bloc Party, and current favorites Kaiser Chiefs): though their sound fits in well enough with today's trends, the band are outsiders on a classic outsider label. Discovered by Warp Records' Steve Beckett, who stumbled on their self-produced red-vinyl seven-inch "The Coast Is Always Changing"/ "The Night I Lost My Head" at London's Rough Trade record shop, Maxïmo Park found themselves signed to a label best known for cutting-edge DJs, not angular guitar-driven post-punk. But Simon Halliday, head of Warp North America, insists their signing was simply part of the experimental electronic label's continuing search for precocious, prolific artists, regardless of genre. "Sometimes it's easier to do 'difficult' stuff because you can shrug your shoulders and say it's underground," Halliday explains over the phone from Warp's NYC offices. "Maxïmo Park have a fluidity and funkiness that allows the group to stand out and stand up to any scrutiny. And the initiative they've shown is a real Warp trait."

Indeed, having already toured the US once, Maxïmo Park are headed back to team up with the Bravery. (The Bravery are scheduled for October 13 at Avalon, but it's not yet confirmed that Maxïmo Park will be opening that date.) And on the 2004 single that caught Warp's attention, they had the words "Popular music that isn't popular *yet*" etched into the vinyl. "Our aim is to just write great pop songs and try to play them to as many people as possible," explains lead singer Paul Smith over the phone from Newcastle. "It's pretty straightforward, but that doesn't mean the music has to be: pop music can encompass everything from Joy Division to Sam Cook."

This isn't Warp's first rock act. The Sheffield label has worked with Pulp and Broadcast, and Halliday, who likes to say there are only two kinds of music, "good and bad," can list half a dozen non-electronic acts he'd love to have signed: Badly Drawn Boy, the Rapture, Radiohead, PJ Harvey. But Maxïmo Park are the most straightforwardly rock/pop band on a label that earned its stripes with what Halliday refers to as "classic Warp artists: Aphex Twin, Autechre, Squarepusher, Prefuse73." And those stripes haven't changed. "It's not about whether it's electronic or not — we certainly didn't have a meeting in a dark room to declare we'd outgrown dance music, as you'll see on future releases."

Warp gave Maxïmo Park room to chart their own course, and the band took advantage by releasing a series of singles featuring dramatic depictions of convulsing figures that bring to mind the bleak and oblique æsthetic of Peter Saville, who's best known for his work on Joy Division/New Order album art. The band's full-length debut, *A Certain Trigger*, which has a similar image on its cover, is full of sinewy riffs, staccato guitars, jittery tempo shifts, and austere yet melodic arrangements that make the most of the occasional guitar squall or keyboard texture. "You know that I would love to see you next year/I hope that I'm still alive next year," Smith sings in "Apply Some Pressure," the band's first US single, setting an archly British tone for the disc. The influences are obvious (Wire, Modern Lovers, Talking Heads, the Jam) and obscure (Glasgow's defunct Life Without Buildings), but never gratuitous.

NOTHING FANCY Just trying to write great pop songs, Paul Smith explains.

"In the end our goal is similar to a lot of artists," Smith reflects. "We want to convey energy, but not just one type of energy. Instead of just wheeling out songs, we want to demand both ourselves and our audience to feel anger, humor, frustration — as long as they walk away with their ears ringing from more than just volume."

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Punk

The Ramones revolution was *faux* low art, aimed at the smartest and most alienated kids in class.

Beat on the brats

Weird Tales of the Ramones offers the ironic story of an American original

_BY RICHARD C. WALLS

What we have here is yet another Ramones anthology, probably the definitive one. The box itself looks like a hard-cover comic book. Inside, in place of the usual learned and/or fannish liner notes, is a real comic book, thick with contributions from more than a dozen artists. There are four CDs and a DVD compilation of music videos interspersed with appropriate encomia from appropriate performers and scene makers and one radio guy who calls the group "the Johnny Appleseed of the new wave," claiming that where the Ramones played, "new wave" groups sprang up in their wake. He means well.

So it's a cool-looking package, even if the musical story is one of prolonged decline. Disc #1 excerpts their first four albums ('76 to '78), and though some may laud those sides as the holy grail of punk, in retrospect you're struck by how clean and precise the group sound, how poppish the melodies are, and how tame the entire enterprise is. Of course, we've heard so much that's louder, faster, and ostensibly stupider since, but 30 years on, it's clear that subsequent outfits who were labeled "punk" had a different agenda. For one thing, almost everything here has a gloss of irony that makes the sordid subject manner enjoyable. And though the only emotions that come through without a wink and a nod are those little dollops of sadness that thread their way through Joey's homely vocals, everything is permeated with a feel-good buzz. The Ramones were a fun band.

So why didn't they experience a commercial breakthrough? The original Ramones — Joey on vocals, Johnny on guitar, Dee Dee on bass, and Tommy, the band's co-producer, on drums — were a high-concept band. The concept fit the times so perfectly, you could believe they hit on it with a minimum of calculation; still, it kept wider popularity at a distance. They offered a scanty take on the basic appeal of rock at a time when people wanted ostentatious musicianship and trowel-sized sincerity. Natural reactionaries, they were turned off by the drifting mainstream rock of the mid '70s, partly because all that rockless bloat was annoying, but also, and more important, because it didn't offer any opening for them.

They weren't the wave of the future, they were the prankish ghosts of the past, in a genre where the *au courant* ruled the airwaves, the distribution of product was tightly controlled, and music remained marginally less important for itself than for its ability to feed fantasies and abet the construction of burgeoning adolescent identity. The Ramones revolution wasn't grand, it was grubby. And it couldn't compete with the blissful languor of a couple of joints and the Electric Light Orchestra, or the manly retro of Bob Seger. It was *faux* low art, aimed at the smartest and most alienated kids in class. Besides, really popular music would always be dominated by, as Mick Jagger once said, "good-looking guys with great haircuts." The Ramones did not fit that description.

FROM WEIRD TALES OF THE RAMONES

START THE REVOLUTION? Actually, they weren't the wave of the future, they were the prankish ghosts of the past.

It's not that they were too good for the period — too pure, too righteous — but rather that the severity of their rejection of prevailing trends was premature. One of the sad ironies of the Ramones story is that by the time punk had spread and codified and was ready to do battle with the dreaded soul killers of pop, the band were no longer in any condition to take advantage. They had become respected elders, appreciated for their groundbreaking work but producing music that seemed more and more irrelevant.

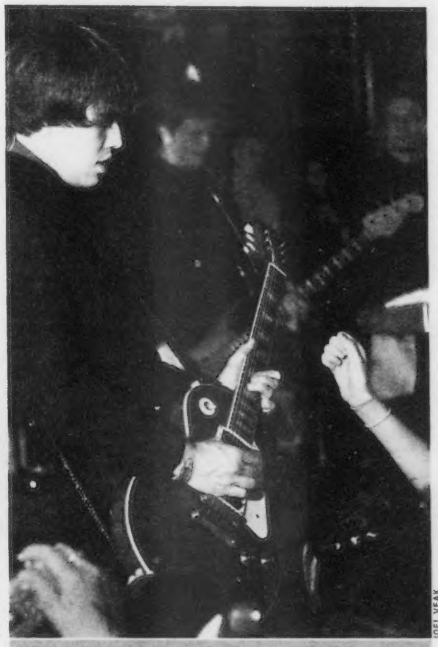
After the first three LPs, which are compiled here on one disc, the point had been made. Discs #2 and #3 of the box sample the afterlife of a great idea; you listen with declining interest as the group try to determine whether there's life beyond their original musical template. The three cuts here from 1980's *End of the Century*, which was produced with a heavy hand by Phil Spector, have the band disappearing into a overheated garden of baroque garnishing. "Do You Remember Rock 'n Roll Radio," slathered with horns and God knows what else, sounds more new wave than punk (the organ seals the deal), and the assertion of the old rock virtues has been replaced by flat-out nostalgia. (Interesting that the end of the '70s is equated with the end of the century, both an acknowledgment that they're entering a new phase and an admission that maybe the gig is up.) "I'm Affected" sounds like an Alice Cooper song with a chorus orchestrated by Jeff Lynne; "Danny Says" has amusing lyrics about being stuck in Idaho, but the melody is tickled along by a harpsichord before the Spector jackbooted bomp kicks in.

What you hear is a group not seeking new ideas so much as stepping outside their created personae — like Kiss taking off the make-up. But this is where the hardcore fall by the wayside or into the arms of other bands, the dedicated start to rationalize, and the newcomers wonder what all the fuss is about. Through the '80s and '90s, the Ramones came to resemble a conventional rock band with interesting quirks; meanwhile the original punk impulse was being absorbed and mutated into various metal subgenres and corrosive noise bands who took loud, fast, and ostensibly simple to new heights of intensity. The benign anti-social aspect of the Ramones, often humorous, often self-depreciating, was never a huge influence. The Sex Pistols and the Clash may have taken inspiration from the Ramones' musical directness, but the former's serious obnoxiousness and the latter's serious seriousness were so far from the Queens quartet's intent as to make Joey and company seem mild-mannered practitioners of some other form of music.

Back at Ramones Central, the box finds the band wandering in the wilderness for almost 20 years, accruing legendary status as "the original punks" while their old audience slips away and a new and larger one fails to coalesce. There's good stuff here. And they did make at least one near-perfect album in their later days: '84's *Too Tough To Die*, represented here by six selections. It was on that gem that they most nearly updated their old panache, though given what surrounds it in *Weird Tales of the Ramones*, I suspect that was just a happy accident. On 1992's *Mondo Bizzarro*, which is represented by "Strength To Endure," complaints like "I just want to walk right out of this world/Because everybody has a poison heart" reveal that these guys just weren't fun anymore.

Still, the Ramones were an American original, and the first disc here is a killer. They're ensconced in the rock pantheon. And on AOL radio, they're featured 24/7 on their own station, right up there with Rod Stewart and Bobby Darin. That could bring a tear to an aging punk's eye, though not necessarily one of joy. Posthumously, they've been deemed appropriate for general consumption by a huge corporation. How ironic is that? ⊙

Live and on Record



JOEL VEAK

SWEAT HARD The Click Five are cute – maybe too cute – but they can play.

BIG BANGS, LITTLE BANGS, AND ANOTHER MAN IN BLACK

THE STONES, THE CLICK FIVE, AND NEIL DIAMOND LIVE

The biggest bang in Boston last week was the arrival of the Rolling Stones, who kicked off an American tour with the first of two shows at Fenway Park on Sunday night. The sounds of warming up began filtering through the Fens as early as Thursday afternoon. Even the Boston traffic department got swept up in the excitement: special no-parking signs with Stones-song references were deployed throughout the Fenway as word went out that no tailgating would be tolerated. I don't recall Springsteen or Jimmy Buffett getting such special treatment, but the Stones are the Stones. And they've got a history with Boston: just over 30 years ago, Mayor Kevin White had to secure the release of Keith and Mick from police custody in Rhode Island to avert a near riot at the old Garden, where the band were scheduled to perform.

There were no such snags this time around. The Stones long ago left the mayhem of the late '60s and early '70s behind: the backstage drug dealers of their younger days have been replaced by a cadre of nutritionists and personal trainers. And the "A Bigger Bang" tour — so named for their forthcoming Virgin album — was already running like a well-oiled machine as they swaggered through 22 tunes in just over two hours Sunday night.

That's to say, the tour apparatus — the industrial stage set with its mechanized mini stage that plowed up into the center of the park mid set, its enormous inflatable lips-and-tongue balloon, its looming towers of lights, and its flashes of fireworks — was in perfect running order. The band, however, were as loose and playful as ever. You can joke all you want about adult diapers and corporate sponsors (this time it's the mortgage company Ameriquest), but in the end they're just a really good rock band with a great bunch of mostly blues-based songs to choose from. Sure, the deep crevasses on Keith's face look like the result of violent geological upheavals, especially when they're projected on the big screen at the back of the stage. But there were no backing tracks to smooth out the rough edges of the slashing chords of "Start Me Up," which opened the set, or the rushed Chuck Berry riffing of "She's So Cold," a tune Mick admitted the band had rarely, if ever, played live before. Even more impressive, in terms of sheer grit, was the new blues tune "Back of My Hand," which had Mick playing some raw slide guitar in tandem with Ron Wood as Keith added improvised little string bends here and there. Now well into their 60s, the Stones are probably worth the $453 face-value tickets the couple to the left of me paid, and even maybe the $2600 the two people sitting in front of me bought theirs for on eBay.

Neil Diamond could take a lesson from the Stones. And until he hit the stage a week ago Monday at the new Garden, it seemed Rick Rubin, the producer who helped make Johnny Cash relevant to a new generation by stripping him back down to his raw essence, was well on his way to doing the same for Diamond. Flanked by two modestly sized screens that showed the back of the solitary man in black — Diamond, that is — the stage was big and barren except for a lone guitar stand that held Neil's black acoustic guitar. It was all just an illusion. As the lights dimmed, one keyboard player rose into view, followed by another. Then one side of the stage opened up to reveal half of the rest of Diamond's Vegas-sized band — 14 members in all, including a four-man horn section, two guitarists, three background vocalists, a drummer *and* a percussionist, and a bass player. Rubin may be indeed be working with Diamond on a stripped-down homonymous album scheduled by Columbia for November 8. But the once ultra-flashy Diamond hasn't done much to tone down his live act. It wasn't till he was five songs deep into a set heavy with melodramatic chestnuts like "Remember Me" and "Beautiful Noise" that he picked the black acoustic up for "Longfellow Serenade" and a rousing "Cherry, Cherry."

Unlike Cash, who'd been abandoned by country music's core audience when Rubin got hold of him, Diamond remains in his element as an old-school, Vegas-style entertainer with mass appeal. As of August 19, according to *Billboard*, he'd grossed over $40 million from his mostly sold-out tour of North America. It's hard to argue with numbers like that. True, the crowd he draws is mostly an older one, peppered, as it was at the Garden, with members of that younger demo an album produced by Rubin might just tap into. When Diamond dipped into material from his film *The Jazz Singer* — the sentimental "Love on the Rocks" and a jingoistic "Coming to America" replete with images of the Stars and Stripes blowing in the wind and a soaring bald eagle — it was difficult to imagine him making the leap to a younger audience. Then again, it's hard to deny the elemental power of "Sweet Caroline" and "Cracklin' Rosie," or Rubin's track record as a tastemaker.

Downstairs at the Middle East a week ago Tuesday, the air was thick with teen spirit and nothing, not Neil, not the Stones, seemed more important than Boston's newest pop sensation, who arrived fresh from opening for the Backstreet Boys Sunday night at the Tweeter Center and from two weeks of dominating MTV's *TRL*. There were also plenty of patient parents wading among the restless young crowd, and a few scenesters congregated on the upper bar level who'd come to see what all the fuss was about.

Greetings from Imrie House (Lava/Atlantic), the Click's neatly styled, guitar-driven debut, had only just hit stores that day. But from the moment the band took the stage, in the same matching Beatle-esque suits and shaggy haircuts they're wearing on the album's cover, and began to run through the disc's 11 tracks from beginning to end, fans were ready to sing along. That would include the clean-cut choruses of peppy tunes like "Good Day" and the built-for-prom-night rocker "Just the Girl," a single written for the band by Fountains of Wayne's Adam Schlesinger and produced, like the rest of the disc, by Mike Denneen at Q Division in Somerville.

To be sure, the Click Five come with some baggage, including a "special trading card" of each band member inside every CD (collect all five), and a keyboard player who spent most of the set blowing kisses to young girls in the crowd. (He appeared after the set upstairs wearing what looked to be a bathrobe and slippers.) And their polished, ever-so-slightly-punkish pop has been custom-tailored for today's average teen. But unlike Britney or either of the Simpson girls, they're not just Mouseketeers dancing along to backing tracks. They play hard, sweat hard, and hit pitch-perfect harmonies. They even finished the early-evening show with a little piece of ear candy for the parents in the crowd — a revved-up cover of the Wings classic "Jet."

_Matt Ashare

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POP

⊕⊕ **KOUFAX | HARD TIMES ARE IN FASHION** | DOGHOUSE | At one time, Ben Folds and Rufus Wainwright may have felt like piano-playing odd men out, but they now have plenty of underground company — bands like Spoon, Robbers on High Street, and the Midwestern boys in Koufax. Owing to the patronage of the Get-Up Kids, who got them on their Doghouse label and took them on the road, Koufax got stuck early on with the emo tag. And maybe that fit singer/guitarist Robert Suchan's ruffled croon and lyrics that tended toward the confessional. But three albums into their career, Koufax are offering piano-driven social commentaries that seem to have been inspired by a trip to Prague that Suchan took while writing lyrics like "What the public wants is what it gets . . . Will someone just give us hope/Rescue us, rescue us" ("Why Bother at All"). "We could go back and forth on this one/Always in denial/About a president's evident cheating through that awful smile," he sings against a melodic mix of piano and guitars and a rhythm section that has the precision of Elvis Costello's Attractions. The staccato piano chords of his songwriting partner, Jared Rosenberg, on the closing "Colour Us Canadian" put one final exclamation point on Koufax's general feelings about being an American in the time of George W.

_Matt Ashare

Koufax + Kevin Devine + Frank Smith | Great Scott, 1222 Comm Ave, Allston | August 29 | 617.566.9014

⊕⊕ **RINGSIDE** | FLAWLESS/GEFFEN | Ringside's debut album is bound to set off a few Hollywood dilettante warning bells. Here's a clothing designer (Scott Thomas, who's provided threads for Gwen Stefani and Sean Penn) hooking up with an actor (Balthazar Getty, most recently seen on screen in *Ladder 49*) to form a band who quickly get signed by Limp Bizkit lunkhead Fred Durst's Flawless imprint. Horrendous enough for you? Well, the good news is that Thomas and Getty have come up with some solid tunes. "Miss You" and "Strangerman" are the standouts, yearning wide-screen numbers reminiscent of later U2, and Thomas's rough-edged tenor proves capable of handling drama. But who are Ringside? When they're not aping U2, they're triggering memories of Train or Matchbox 20 or the Wallflowers, none of whom oozes character. As we all know, originality is no prerequisite for pop success; still, it's frustrating to hear talented artists tread such well-worn paths. "I just wanna be myself, but it's a struggle," Thomas sings on the opening "Struggle." That much is clear.

_Mac Randall

⊕ **TURIN BRAKES | JACKINABOX** | ASTRALWERKS | In 2001, on the strength of their sad, haunting *The Optimist* LP (Astralwerks), Turin Brakes garnered critical acclaim in Great Britain for helping to spearhead the so-called "New Acoustic Movement," a clunky moniker for artists as diverse as David Gray and Badly Drawn Boy. Stateside, the disc and its 2003 follow-up, *Ether Song*, barely made a noise. Now, after a guest slot on an OC soundtrack, Olly Knights and Gale Paridjanian seem poised to make inroads in the US with their acoustic-guitar-driven lullabies. "Fishing for the Dream" and "They Can't Buy the Sunshine" name-drop LA, and they couple the acoustics with beats borrowed from the G. Love playbook. In other words, *Jackinabox* is Turin Brakes' most Americanized album. Also their worst. The duo's lyrics had been complex, concise, and occasionally downright confrontational. *Optimist*'s "72" dealt with the emotional side effects the so-called emergency contraception pill might have on a relationship; "Underdog" described a panicked flight from the scene of a potential suicide. The new Turin Brakes sing about lost fame as well as sand, sunshine, and babes. "Above the Clouds," an airy love song with intelligent, emotive lyrics, is the one exception.

_Matthew Shaer

COUNTRY

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **SHOOTER JENNINGS | PUT THE O BACK IN COUNTRY** | UNIVERSAL SOUTH | Shooter Jennings, the son of the late outlaw-country maverick Waylon Jennings, can't resist the pull of the anti-Nashville libertinism that propelled his father through a 40-year career. In "Solid Country Gold," from his debut, he brags that "I was born in Nashville but I left there long ago, 'cause they built Music City by sacrificing soul." Fortunately, Shooter's blanket distrust of the C&W biz isn't rooted in the puritanical neo-conservatism that yields a new raft of lifeless alt-country albums every year; he just thinks stuff made in Nashville doesn't rock hard enough, or doesn't have enough dirty jokes. He's wrong, of course, but who could decline a tune as winningly irreverent as "Busted in Baylor County," where Shooter and his band mates get stopped by a state trooper after "smokin' up that California gold," only to be released by a judge who levies a fine of "a few autographs for you to sign"?

_Mikael Wood

Shooter Jennings + Toby Keith | Tweeter Center, Mansfield | August 27 | 617.228.6000

HIP-HOP

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **DIPLOMATS | MORE THAN MUSIC** | KOCH | Harlem's premier hipster-approved hustlers have rolled out another "album" that's little more than a glorified mixtape. But when you're making the kind of mixtapes the Diplomats do, that's not such a bad thing. As on past collections, Cam'ron and the founding fathers are present in the periphery — peep Jim Jones and Juelz Santana on the organ freakout "What Is This" and the metal-riff-ripping "Santana's Town II," respectively — but *More Than Music* is mostly a showcase for the clique's lesser-known MCs. "You Make Me Say" proves that 20-year old "Dominican prince" J.R. Writer is capable of melding his own smirking charisma and Father Cam's beguiling cadence. Getting through all 67 minutes is something of an endurance test, but a little goes a long way on quick 16-bar handoffs like the Otis Redding–sampling posse cut "Dipset Symphony."

_Chris Nelson

DVD

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **MAGIC SLIM & THE TEARDROPS | ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN** | BLIND PIG | Magic Sam's former bassist hasn't been slim for decades, but he does have his own brand of Chicago-juke-joint sorcery, and that's made him one of the Windy City's most popular and enduring journeyman players. There's nothing fancy about tales of heartbreak and lust like "Please Don't Dog Me" and "I Need Lovin'," but he's developed a propulsive style that's heavy on rock-like grooves with occasional flourishes of funk. Slim has also built plenty of room for keening, edgy guitar improvisations into his arrangements, and this bear of man with a growling voice to match is most captivating when he sits down to deliver one of his gnawing solos. All of which is captured in this concert video shot at the Sierra Nevada Brewery in Chico, California, without fancy camera angles or visual trickery. And that's perfect for Slim's music — a personal, no-frills distillation of the lessons he learned from Sam, Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, and the other legends of the genre who were holding court on the stages of his home town's South and West Sides when he was coming up. The bonus interview isn't always the whole truth, but it's entertaining, with Slim's shy personality and deep love and knowledge of the music shining through.

_Ted Drozdowski

RESCUE HIM Koufax's Robert Suchan came back from Prague with social commentaries.

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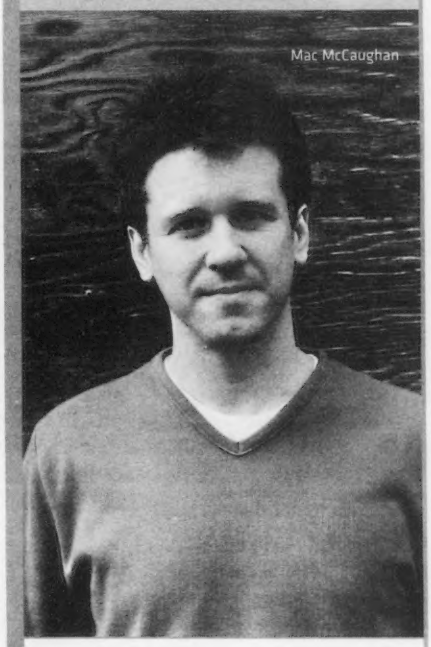
_BY CHRIS NELSON


Mac McCaughan

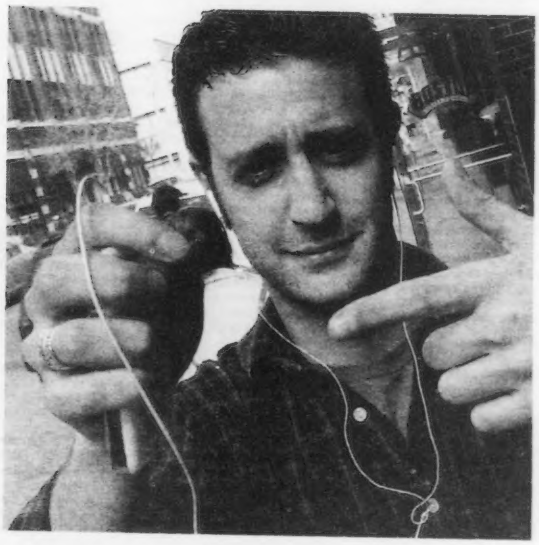
When they started Merge a decade and a half ago, Mac and Laura from Superchunk were looking to release their own recordings and a few things by friends. As last year's *Old Enough 2 Know Better: 15 Years of Merge Records* three-disc comp proved, it's turned into a much bigger operation. Here are three freebies from their Web site.

⊕⊕⊕
PORTASTATIC
"I WANNA KNOW GIRLS"
MERGE
Back when lo-fi was in, Portastatic was just a vehicle for Mac McCaughan's stripped-down demos. This cut, from the new *Bright Ideas*, is a full-band, pro-studio affair replete with ringing guitar hooks, vocal harmonies, and a nice drum breakdown.

⊕⊕⊕
TENEMENT HALLS
"STARLESS NIGHTS"
MERGE
Remember the Rock*A*Teens? Well, singer Chris Lopez is back as Tenement Halls and a new disc, *Knitting Needles & Bicycle Bells*, is full of imagistic lyrics and interesting instrumental touches like the banjo that mixes in with the organ and guitars on this track.

⊕⊕⊕⊕
THE ARCADE FIRE
"WAKE UP"
MERGE
The Arcade Fire have a new single and a new EP coming soon from Merge. In the meantime, here's a reason to seek them out: "Wake Up," from *Funeral*, with its yearning vocals, psychedelic backdrop, and pleas to the kids of today.

BEFORE YOU LOAD IT HERE



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10/11 SLEEPYTIME GORILLA MUSEUM
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10/29 THE BAGS 10/31 VAUX
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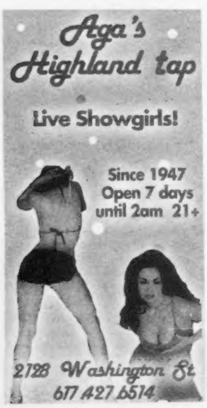

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Listings

CLUBS

THURSDAY 25

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | Asa Brebner + Bad Saints + Mike Rocket & the Stars + Charlie Chesterman
AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Keith
AN TUA NUA | Boston | 9 pm | "Thursday Night Live" with DJ C Squared
ARIA | Boston | NYC hip-hop with guest DJs
AVALON | Boston | 7 pm | Rupee + Evalast Movements + Sound Vibrations + Gary Banton
THE AVENUE | Allston | 7 pm | "Acoustic Pop" with Will Daly | 9 pm | "Dance Your Ass Off" with DJ Hoff
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | DJs Nailz + Tasty + Taner K spinning vocal and progressive house
THE BEACHCOMBER | Quincy | Inchicore
BILL'S BAR | Boston | Caroline Culde + Gavin Castleton + Natalie Harris
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | 80s and today with DJ Scorch
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Casey
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | 5 pm | "After Work Thursday"
BRAVO@THE MFA | Boston | Ron Poster
BREEZEWAY BAR & GRILLE | Roxbury | Serious Bizness
BUCK MULLIGAN'S | West Roxbury | R&B and commercial dance with DJ George
THE BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 10 pm | Swinging Johnsons
CLUB CAFE | Boston | "Non Stop Video Show" with VJ Tom Yazbek
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Al Stewart
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Love Night" 80s, all vinyl with DJ Brian
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Chart & Dance" with DJ Doc
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | Lincoln Conspiracy
EMBASSY | Boston | "The Glamorous Life" hip-hop & electro party with DJs Susan Esthera + Aphrodite
ENCORE | Boston | Michelle Currie
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Grown Folks Party" with 7L + Tall Matt + Beyonder
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
EUROPA | Boston | "Twilight Thursday" Progressive, trance, techno with DJs Justin Carr + Matt Villa
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | "Heaven & Hell" house and hip-hop with DJs Chaos + Mr. Aru
FELT | Boston | 9 pm | "True Music Thursday" with Matt Chase Group + Parkview + Tides
FOUNDATION LOUNGE | Boston | 70s, 80s, funky disco, motown with DJ Edward Grant Stuart
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | DJ JFK
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Spitting Vinnies
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | "Afro-pop High Life" with Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi
HANNAH'S | Somerville | Reggae and house with guest DJs
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Grey Spot
HOFFA'S SWIZZ ALPS | Cambridge | 10 pm | Boston Afro-Beat Society
HONG KONG AT FANEUIL HALL | Boston | "Hip-hop Thursday"
HONG KONG | Cambridge | Mainstream, house & Reggae with DJ Bob
JACOB WIRTH RESTAURANT | Boston | 6 pm | Clay Brown Trio
JASMINE & KENDALL LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Dan Tepfer Trio
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Rodney Crowell Band + Stan Martin
JOSE McINTYRE'S | Boston | Upstairs | DJ John Tringall | Downstairs | Me & Julio
THE KELLS | Allston | "Fun House" with DJs Edgar + Kieran James
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | No One's Kind + Aloke + Tracksuit + Jake & the Jakes
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Chris Stovall Brown
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | Heygoods | 9:30 pm | Bow Thayer + Sticky
LOBBY LOUNGE AT THE HYATT REGENCY | Boston | 5:30 pm | Andy Baer Quartet
LUPO'S AT THE STRAND | Providence, RI | Twiztid + ABK
MACHINE | Boston | "Human Thursday" with DJs Sean Caron + Angles
MADFISH GRILLE | Gloucester | Cha Cha Allstars
MANTRA | Boston | 10:30 pm | "Mantra Thursday" DJs spin eclectic international, vocal house, & hip-hop
MARQUEE | Boston | "Turn It Up Thursday"
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Aberdeen City + Taxpayer + Faces on Film + Plain Janes | Downstairs | "Hi5: Boston Rocks for Generosity: AIDS/HIV Benefit" with Todd Martin + Jake Amerding + Sky Circuit + Rane
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Make It New" with FE Soundsystem
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | Women's Dance Night" with DJ Mozz + Queeraoke
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | "Aquanet Dance Party" 80s, old school hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJs Casey + CTO + Frank White + Tommee + Knife + Paul Foley
THE MODERN | Boston | 10 pm | "Soma," with DJ Omar
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | "Heavy Metal Breakdown"
ORLEANS | Somerville | DJ Ren Justice
PADDY O'S | Boston | Swerve
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | 5 pm | "Reggae Paradise" | 8 pm | Dub with DJ Brynmore
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Ryan Lee & the Mindless + Tigersaw + Raymond Morin + O'Death
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Elements" drum 'n bass with DJs Lenore + Crook + M-Doc
PORTER'S BAR & GRILL | Boston | "L.A.B.: Local Artists Boston"
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Flanagan with musical guest Jim Plunkett
Q | Boston | "Theme Thursday" with DJ Mike Navarro
THE RACK | Boston | DJs Massi + Mike Pardi
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Reunion Thursday" with NPG All-Stars
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Wicked Wicked Thursday: Electro-carib mix & mash" with Wayne & Wax + DJ Dubz
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Lounge: Tribal House and Break beat funk with DJ Jonathan Theory
THE ROXY | Boston | 10:30 pm | "The Latin Quarter" with special guest DJs
RYLES | Cambridge | "Boston Jazz Collective Fundraiser"
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | 9 pm | Hip-hop, reggae, reggaeton, with DJ Philippe
SCULLERS | Boston | Richard Elliot
SEA NOTE | Nantasket Beach | Level Fish
SISSY K'S | Boston | Justin Beech | Upstairs | popular dance with DJ Deja
SIT 'N BULL PUB | Maynard | Hip Replacements
SKY BAR | Somerville | Aepril Schaile & the Judgement + Dreamchild + Seven Sunless Days
SOLSTICE CAFE | Mission Hill, Boston | 10 pm | Bangalore
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "College Night" with DJ B-Spin
TERRACE BAR AT THE COPLEY MARRIOTT HOTEL | Boston | Brian Walkley Band
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 7:30 pm | Eric McFadden
33 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE | Boston | "Krush Thursday" with DJs Eight 2 + Matos
TIR NA NOG | Somerville | Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Colleen Sexton | 10 pm | Ken Clark Organ Trio
TOAST | Somerville | "Ladies Night" house, trance, techno with DJ 9-1
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Chris Taylor Trio
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | "Young Professionals Club"
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Beatings + Caspian + Barnicle + Subject
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
VAPOR | Boston | "MOCCA" hip hop and R&B with DJs KC + Ron Steel
VENU | Boston | NYC house with DJ Nailz | "ISE-O spa" with DJ Tasty
VERTIGO | Boston | "Diversify Thursdays" deep soulful house with DJ Fran and UK hard house and progressive trance with DJs JLong + Tek + Catatonic + guest DJs
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Francisco Mela Quintet
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | Shango Axe
WESTERN FRONT | Cambridge | "Soulfire Reggae Showcase" with Midnight Ravers + Selector Jah Rich
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40 funk and dance with DJs Gabe + Lazee Boy
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | Fursaxa + Zaimph + Christina Carter 9:30 pm | "Night of the Living Hammond B3's"
ZUZU | Cambridge | Kristen Forbes

FRIDAY 26

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | Konks + Spitzz + Turpentine Brothers + Tommy & the Terrors + Tampoffs
ALL ASIA CAFE | Cambridge | Granian + Fooling April
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | Bob Gullotti Trio
AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Sean O | 10 pm DJ David Natola
ANTHEM | Boston | Ron Murphy
AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Superlovers" early hits to the latest sounds with DJ Vinny
AQUA | Boston | Greg Luttrell
ARIA | Boston | "Foundation Friday" with DJ Klutch
ATLAS DANCE | Boston | "Top 40 Dancing"
AVALON | Boston | 10 pm | "Avaland" guest DJs with residents Eli Wilkie
THE AVENUE | Allston | 9 pm | DJ Steve Auston
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | "Flavor Friday" with DJ Master Millions
THE BEACHCOMBER | Quincy | Swerve
THE BIG EASY | Boston | "Mardi Gras Friday"
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | Commercial dance and R&B
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Pete Winfrey
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | Top 40 Dance & hip-hop with DJ Bruno
BUCK MULLIGAN'S | West Roxbury | R&B, rock, and dance with DJ Keith
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers | Downstairs | DJ du Jour
CLUB CAFE | Boston | "Non Stop Video Show" with VJ Tom Yazbek
CLUB 58 | Quincy | "Get Some Fridays" hip-hop with the Freakas
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Carrie Newcomer + Krista Detor
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Northern Soul All-Nighter" with DJ Deano
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Uptempo House" with DJ Paul Dailey
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Mugsy
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | John Troy Trio
DRUID PUB | Cambridge | 6 pm | "Traditional Irish Seisiun" with Peter Molloy & Friends
EMBASSY | Boston | 10 pm | "Hip-hop" with DJ Just Nyce
ENCORE | Boston | "Cabaret Open Mic" with Jan Peters + Colleen Powers + Michael Ricca + Brian Patton
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "All Stars Have Eyes" with David Day + Erik Pearson
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | Vocal house, 70s, 80s, 90s with DJ Bob Gallagher
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | House and hip-hop with DJs Tiziano + Luca
FELT | Boston | 9 pm | "Therapy Friday" with DJs Cerebral + Chris Kung
THE GOOD LIFE DOWNTOWN | Boston | Weepin' Willie
GRAND CANAL | Boston | Dick & Jane
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | "The Pill" with DJs Ken + Terence + Westward Trail
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Complaints
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | "Latin DJ & Dance"
G-SPOT | Boston | "Deep, sexy house" with DJs Mike Traylor + Paul Incus
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | Papa Grows Funk
THE HARP | Boston | Friday Night Vibe
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Spike the Punch
HOFFA'S SWIZZ ALPS | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Scratch Night" with DJ Frank White
HONG KONG | Cambridge | Top 40 Hip-Hop, Rock & Club Classics with M.C. Renn
I/D | Boston | "Bashment" Reggae DJ Juneyacool
THE INDEPENDENT | Somerville | 10 pm | "Mash Ave" with DJs BC + Lenlow
THE INTERNATIONAL | Boston | "The Basement" house music with DJ Bradford James
JACQUE'S | Boston | Liz Borden Band + Wendi Farren + Girl on Top
JASMINE & KENDALL LOUNGE | Cambridge | 6 pm | Marianne Solivan Jazz Quartet | 10 pm | Carol O'Shaughnessy
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Mango Blue
JUKEBOX | Boston | Top 40 and retro dance night
THE KELLS | Allston | "Ladies Night" with DJs Doc + Kieran
KENNEDY'S | Boston | 5 pm | Peter Rice | At 9 pm | Springhill Rounders
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | Red Shift + Ever + Maria DeMaio + Mickey Bliss Organ Combo
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Ronnie Ron Trio
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | Holly & Matt (Humanwire) | 9:30 pm | Count Zero + Cato Malo
MADFISH GRILLE | Gloucester | Megawatts

McGANN'S | Boston | 10 pm | Hip-hop, R&B, Reggae, & House with DJ Sparky
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Today Is the Day + Violent Marv + Ichabod + Bury the Needle | Downstairs | Rubikon + Throe + Crowne Vict + Hepburn + Screams of Erida Claymore
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Back + Forth" with Mark Estrada
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | Magic People + Empties
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | Boston | 5 pm | Sunday's Well | 9 pm | Inchicore
THE MODERN | Boston | "Mission" with DJs Odi + Keithy Bee vs. Mathius + Iliux
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Lady of Spain + This Blue Holiday + Guillermo Sexo + Stereo Soul Future
OCEANA RESTAURANT | Boston | Mike DiBari Trio
ORLEANS | Somerville | DJ Tom
PADDY O'S | Boston | Joshua Tree
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Gobshites + Thru the Keyhole Burlesque
PARRIS | Boston | Candiflyp
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Islaja + Lau Nau + Kuupuu + Feathers + Davenport
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "PYT [Pretty Young Things]" Ladies 80s, old school with DJ Vinny
THE PLACE | Boston | 10 pm | VJ Laptop
THE POINT | Boston | "Fluid" house and techno with DJ troupe Recordheadz
Q | Boston | "Top 40" with DJ Massai
Continued on p 20

CLUB DIRECTORY

ABBEY LOUNGE | 617.441.9631 | 3 Beacon St, Somerville
ALL ASIA CAFE | 617.497.1544 | 334 Mass Ave, Cambridge
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | 508.405.ARTS | 55 Nicholas Rd, Framingham
AN TAIN | 617.426.1870 | 31 India St, Boston
ANTHEM | 617.523.8383 | 138 Portland St, Boston
AN TUA NUA | 617.262.2121 | 835 Beacon St, Boston
AQUA | 617.720.4900 | 120 Water St, Boston
ARIA | 617.338.7080 | 246 Tremont St, Boston
ATLAS DANCE | 617.437.0300 | 3 Lansdowne St, Boston
AVALON | 617.262.2424 | 15 Lansdowne St, Boston
AVENUE ONE LOUNGE | 617.912.1234 | Hyatt Regency, 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston
THE AVENUE | 617.782.9508 | 1249 Comm Ave, Allston
AXIS | 617.262.2437 | 13 Lansdowne St, Boston
THE BEACHCOMBER | 617.479.8989 | 797 Wollaston Beach Blvd, Quincy
BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | 781.729.2565 | at Remington's, 124 Boylston St, Boston
BELL IN HAND TAVERN | 617.227.2098 | 45-55 Union St, Boston
THE BIG EASY | 617.351.7000 | One Boylston Place, Boston
BILL'S BAR | 617.421.9678 | 5.5 Lansdowne St, Boston
BLARNEY STONE PUB | 617.436.8223 | 1505 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
BLUE CAT CAFE | 617.247.9922 | 94 Mass Ave, Boston
BOB THE CHEF'S | 617.536.6204 | 604 Columbus Ave, Boston
BOSTON ROCKS | 617.726.1110 | Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston
BRAVO@THE MFA | 617.369.3474 | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston
BREEZEWAY BAR & GRILLE | 617.541.5400 | 153 Blue Hill Ave, Roxbury
BRENDAN BEHAN PUB | 617.522.5386 | 378 Centre St, Jamaica Plain
BUCK MULLIGAN'S | 617.325.9800 | Center St, West Roxbury
BULL RUN | 978.425.4311 | Rte 2A, Shirley
THE BURREN | 617.776.6896 | 247 Elm St, Davis Square, Somerville
CANTAB LOUNGE | 617.354.2685 | 738 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge
CAPRICE | 617.292.0080 | 275 Tremont St, Boston
CHARLES PLAYHOUSE | 617.426.6912 | 74 Warrenton St, Boston
CHARLIE'S KITCHEN | 617.492.9646 | 10 Elliot St, Cambridge
CLARK'S IN FANEUIL HALL | 617.227.7800 | 21 Merchant's Row, Boston
CLUB CAFE | 617.536.0966 | 209 Columbus Ave, Boston
CLUB 58 | 617.471.7788 | 58 Ross Way, Quincy
CLUB HOLLYWOOD | 617.338.8283 | 1-3 Harrison Ave, Boston
CLUB PASSIM | 617.492.7679 | 47 Palmer St, Harvard Square, Cambridge
COMEDY CONNECTION | 617.248.9700 | Upstairs at Faneuil Hall, Boston
COMEDY STUDIO | 617.864.5311 | 1238 Mass Ave, Cambridge
COMMON GROUND | 617.783.2071 | 83-87 Harvard Ave, Allston
COSTELLO'S | 617.522.9263 | 723 Centre St, Jamaica Plain
COTTONWOOD CAFE | 617.247.2225 | 222 Berkeley St, Boston
DEE DEE'S LOUNGE | 617.328.5938 | 297 Newport Ave, Quincy
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | 617.779.8822 | 332 Washington St, Brighton
DICK'S LAST RESORT | 617.267.8080 | 55 Huntington Ave, Boston
DILLON'S | 617.421.1818 | 955 Boylston St, Boston
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | 978.745.0139 | 7 Dodge St, Salem
DRUID PUB | 617.497.0965 | 1357 Cambridge St, Inman Square Cambridge
EMBASSY | 617.536.2100 | 30 Lansdowne St, Boston
EMERALD ISLE | 617.288.0010 | 1501 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
ENCORE | 617.338.ROXY | 279 Tremont St, Boston
ENORMOUS ROOM | 617.491.5599 | 567 Mass Ave, Cambridge
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | 617.277.9722 | 1651 Beacon St, Brookline
EUROPA | 617.482.3939 | 51 Stuart St, Boston
THE EXCHANGE | 617.726.7600 | 148 State St, Boston
FELT | 617.338.6999 | 533 Washington St, Boston
FIRE + ICE | 617.482.FIRE | 205 Berkeley St, Boston
FLAT TOP JOHNNY'S | 617.494.9565 | 1 Kendall Square
FOUNDATION LOUNGE | 617.859.9900 | Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm Ave, Boston
THE GOOD LIFE DOWNTOWN | 617.451.2622 | 28 Kingston St, Boston
GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILL | 617.497.0400 | 1230 Mass Ave, Cambridge
GRAND CANAL | 617.523.1112 | 57 Canal St, Boston
GREAT SCOTT | 617.734.4502 | 1222 Comm Ave, Allston
GREEN BRIAR | 617.789.4100 | 304 Washington St, Brighton
GREEN DRAGON | 617.367.0055 | 11 Marshall St, Boston
GREEN STREET GRILL | 617.876.1655 | 280 Green St, Cambridge
G-SPOT | 617.423.6767 | Downtown Crossing, Boston
HANNAH'S | 617.629.5302 | 499 Broadway, Somerville
HARPERS FERRY | 617.254.9743 | 158 Brighton Ave, Allston
THE HARP | 617.742.1010 | 85 Causeway St, Boston
HENNESSY'S. | 617.742.2121 | 25 Union St, Boston
HOFFA'S SWIZZ ALPS | 617.354.5300 | 114 Mount Auburn St, Cambridge
HONG KONG AT FANEUIL HALL | 617.227.2226 | 65 Chatham St, Boston
HONG KONG | 617.864.5311 | 1236 Mass Ave, Cambridge
I/O | 617.262.2437 | 13 Lansdowne St, Boston
IMPROV ASYLUM | 617.263.6887 | 216 Hanover St, Boston
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | 617.576.1253 | 1253 Cambridge St, Cambridge
THE INDEPENDENT | 617.440.6022 | 75 Union Square, Somerville
THE INTERNATIONAL | 617.296.6270 | 184 High St, Boston
JACOB WIRTH RESTAURANT | 617.338.8586 | 33 Stuart St, Boston
JACQUE'S | 617.426.8902 | 79 Broadway, Boston
JASMINE & KENDALL LOUNGE | 617.577.8668 | 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge
JEANIE JOHNSTON PUB | 617.983.9432 | 144 South St, Jamaica Plain
JIMBO'S SOUTH RESTAURANT | 781.848.0300 | 405 Franklin St, Braintree
JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY | 617.591.1616 | 255 Elm St, Somerville
JOEY MAC'S | 617.491.0852 | 23 Warren St
JOHNNY D'S | 617.776.2004 | 17 Holland St, Davis Square, Somerville
JOSE McINTYRE'S | 617.451.9460 | 160 Milk St, Boston
JUKEBOX | 617.338.ROXY | 275 Tremont St, Boston
THE KELLS | 617.782.9082 | 161 Brighton Ave, Allston
KIRKLAND CAFE | 617.491.9640 | 425 Washington St, Somerville
LES ZYGOMATES | 617.542.5108 | 129 South St, Boston
LIZARD LOUNGE | 617.547.0759 | 1667 Mass Ave, below Cambridge Common Restaurant, Cambridge
LOBBY LOUNGE AT THE HYATT REGENCY | 617.912.1234 | 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston
LUCY'S | 617.232.5829 | 242 Harvard St, Brookline
LUPO'S AT THE STRAND | 401.272.5876 | 79 Washington St, Providence, RI
MACHINE | 617.536.1950 | 1256 Boylston St., Boston
MADFISH GRILLE | 978.281.4554 | 77 Rocky Neck Ave, Gloucester
MANTRA | 617.542.8111 | 52 Temple St, Boston
MARQUEE | 617.523.1112 | 57 Canal St, Boston
McGANN'S | 617.227.4059 | 197 Portland St, Boston
METROPOLIS | 401.454.5483 | 172 Pine St, Providence, RI
MIDDLE EAST | 617.497.0576 | 472 Mass Ave, Central Square, Cambridge
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | 617.868.MSEX | 315 Mass Ave. Cambridge
MIDWAY CAFE | 617.524.9038 | 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain
MILKY WAY | 617.524.3740 | at Bella Luna, 405 Centre St, Jamaica Plain
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | 617.338.5656 | 77 Broad St, Boston
THE MODERN | 617.536.2100 | 36 Lansdowne St, Boston
NEWS | 617.426.6397 | 150 Kneeland St, Boston
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | 617.482.0930 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
NICK'S MAUI | 508.482.0930 | Rte 28 North, Brockton
O'BRIEN'S | 617.782.6245 | 3 Harvard Ave, Allston
OCEANA RESTAURANT | 617.227.0800 | Marriott Long Wharf, 296 State St, Boston
O'CONNOR'S | 617.482.2255 | 27 Columbus Ave, Boston
O'LEARY'S | 617.734.0049 | 1010 Beacon St, Brookline
OPAL LOUNGE | 617.423.6767 | 48 Winter St, Boston
ORLEANS | 617.591.2100 | 65 Holland St, Somerville
PADDY O'S | 617.367.2114 | 33 Union St, Boston
PARADISE LOUNGE | 617.562.8814 | 969 Comm Ave, Boston
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | 617.562.8800 | 969 Comm Ave, Boston
PARRIS | 617.248.9900 | Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston
PA'S LOUNGE | 617.776.1557 | 345 Somerville Ave, Somerville
PHOENIX LANDING | 617.576.6260 | 512 Mass Ave, Cambridge
THE PLACE | 617.523.2081 | 2 Broad St, Boston
THE PLAYGROUND | 617.441.0666 | 403 Mass Ave, Cambridge
THE POINT | 617.523.7020 | 147 Hanover St, Boston
PORTER'S BAR & GRILL | 617.742.7678 | 173 Portland St, Boston
PURPLE SHAMROCK | 617.227.2060 | 1 Union St, Boston
Q | 617.742.2121 | 25 Union St, Boston
THE RACK | 617.725.1051 | 24 Clinton St, Faneuil Hall, Boston
RALPH'S | 508.753.9543 | 95 Prescott St, Worcester
RAMROD | 617.266.2986 | 1254 Boylston St, Boston
REDLINE | 617.491.9851 | 59 JFK St, Cambridge
REGATTABAR | 617.661.5000 | Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, Cambridge
REMINGTON'S | 617.574.9676 | 124 Boylston St, Boston
RENDEZVOUS | 781.893.7171 | 596 Moody St, Waltham
RIVER GODS | 617.576.1881 | 125 River St, Cambridge
ROGGIE'S | 617.566.1880 | 356 Chestnut Hill Ave, Brighton
THE ROXY | 617.338.ROXY | 279 Tremont St, Boston
RYLES | 617.876.9330 | 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | 617.666.3589 | 335 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | 617.718.9177 | 608 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | 617.282.6606 | 1333 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
SCULLERS | 617.562.4111 | 400 Soldiers Field Rd, Boston
SEA NOTE | 781.925.4300 | 159 Nantasket Ave, Nantasket Beach
SERAFINA | 978.371.9050 | 195 Sudbury Rd, Concord
SIDNEY'S GRILLE | 617.494.0011 | at the Hotel@MIT, 20 Sidney St, Cambridge
SISSY K'S | 617.248.6511 | 6 Commercial St, Boston
SIT 'N BULL PUB | 978.897.7232 | 163 Main St, Maynard
SKY BAR | 617.623.5223 | 518 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SOLSTICE CAFE | 617.566.5958 | 1625 Tremont St, Mission Hill, Boston
SPONTANEOUS CELEBRATIONS | 617.524.6373 | 45 Danforth St, Jamaica Plain
STEWART'S | 617.381.0563 | 166 Elm St, Everett
SUGAR SHACK | 617.351.2510 | 1 Boylston Pl, Boston
SUSHI ISLAND | 781.224.3479 | 397 Main St, Wakefield
SWEETWATER CAFE | 617.351.2515 | 3 Boylston Place, Boston
TANTRIC LOUNGE | 617.367.8742 | 123 Stuart St,
TERRACE BAR AT THE COPLEY MARRIOTT HOTEL | 617.236.5800 | 110 Huntington Ave, Boston
TERRACE LOUNGE | 617.236.5800 | at the Marriott Hotel Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave, Boston
THIRSTY SCHOLAR PUB | 617.497.2294 | 70 Beacon St, Somerville
33 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE | 617.572.3311 | 33 Stanhope St, Boston
THE TIMES | 617.357.TIME | 112 Broad St, Boston
TIR NA NOG | 617.628.4300 | 366A Somerville Ave, Union Square, Somerville
TOAD | 617.497.4950 | 1912 Mass Ave, Porter Square, Cambridge
TOAST | 617.623.9211 | 70 Union Square, Somerville
TOMMY DOYLE'S | 617.225.0888 | 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge
TOP OF THE HUB | 617.536.1775 | 52nd Floor, Prudential Tower, Boston
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | 617.338.1000 | 295 Franklin St, Boston
TRIBE THEATRE | 617.510.4447 | 67 Stuart St, Boston
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | 617.492.BEAR | 10 Brookline St, Central Square, Cambridge
21st AMENDMENT | 617.227.7100 | Bowdoin St, Beacon Hill, Boston
VAPOR | 617.695.9500 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
VENU | 617.338.8061 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
VERTIGO | 617.723.7277 | 126 State St, Boston
WALLY'S CAFE | 617.424.1408 | 427 Mass Ave, Boston
WATERWORKS | 617.689.0600 | 314 Victory Rd, Quincy
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | 508.349.6055 | Cahoon Hollow Beach, Wellfleet
WESTERN FRONT | 617.492.7772 | 343 Western Ave, Cambridge
WEST STREET GRILLE | 617.423.0300 | 15 West St, Boston
WHO'S ON FIRST | 617.247.3353 | 19 Yawkey Way, Fenway Park, Boston
WONDER BAR | 617.351.COOL | 186 Harvard Ave, Allston
YERADI'S RESTAURANT | 617.710.8194 | 418 Watertown St, Newton
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | 617.876.6060 | 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge
ZUZU | 617.864.3278 | 474 Mass Ave, Cambridge

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THIS WEEKEND!
From NBC's "Saturday Night Live"!
DARRELL HAMMOND

SEPT. 2-3
TAMMY PESCATELLI

SEPT. 9-10
From the Jeff Foxworthy Roast
LISA LAMPANELLI

SEPT. 29TH
JOE ROGAN

EVERY THURSDAY!
"The R-Rated Hypnotist"
FRANK SANTOS

LIZARD Lounge
TH 8/25 9:30 / $7 SOUL LOW @ 7:30 • FREE! THE HEYGOODS
BOW THAYER STICKY
FR 8/26 9:30 / $8 SOUL LOW @ 7:30 • FREE! HUMANWINE (acoustic)
COUNT ZERO
AUTO INTERIORS • SPARKOLA
SA 8/27 9:30 / $7 SOUL LOW @ 7:30 • FREE! JULIET LLOYD
SHINER JONES
GOH • TREMULANT
SU 8/28 7:00 / $5 LIZARD POETRY SLAM @8 JAM @9:30
FEATURE: VCR
MO 8/29 9:30 / $5 EMALINE DELAPAIX DANA SHELLMIRE
TU 8/30 9:30 / $5 SOUL LOW @ 7:30 • FREE! KEVIN GRIFFIN
FLYNN
AND SPECIAL GUEST
WE 8/31 9:30 / $5 SOUL LOW @ 7:30 • FREE! ERIC BRACE
AMELIA WHITE
ERIC SCHMIDER
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.VIRTUOUS.COM
617-547-0759
1667 MASS. AVE. CAMBRIDGE

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8/26 Herman Johnson
8/27 Herman Johnson
8/30 Ryles Artist Showcase
8/31 Penpa Tsering and Friends
9/01 Mark Snyder
9/02 Jennifer Greer
DANCE HALL
WED Moves n' Vibes-Samba
THURS Temporada Latina-Salsa
FRI 8/26 Brazilnut
SAT 4 on the Floor-Latin'Swing
SUN WEPA Salsa Sundays
MITCH'S BBQ
Real BBQ, Specialties & More
Dinner: Tues thru Sat
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SUNDAY JAZZ BRUNCH
8/28 with Yoko Miwa
TIX & INFO:
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212 Hampshire St, Camb.

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Listings

Continued from p 19

THE RACK | Boston | 10 pm | "Anthem Elite Model Search"
REDLINE | Cambridge | 9 pm | Deep Soulful Chicago House with DJs KC + Rodney Marable + Craig Kapilow
REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Idinda Menzel
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Appliance of Science" with Unlocked-groove
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Upstairs | Ali | Lounge | "Dance Your Ass Off" with DJ Hoff
THE ROXY | Boston | 10:30 pm | "The Cat Club" with DJ Adilson plus special guest DJs
RYLES | Cambridge | Brazil Nut
SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | Dorchester | "Party Time" with DJ Jen
SCULLERS | Boston | Michael Franks
SEA NOTE | Nantasket Beach | Mission of Blues
SISSY K'S | Boston | 5 pm | Matt Browne | 9 pm | Stu Sinclair & Kevin Kirrane | Upstairs | Hi-NRG and pop house with DJ Tom McKenna
SIT 'N BULL PUB | Maynard | John Hall
SOLSTICE CAFE | Mission Hill, Boston | 10 pm | | Fuse
SPONTANEOUS CELEBRATIONS | Jamaica Plain | "Next Level" with DJs Nomadik + Kwesi Johnson + Kiki Breevlife + Ladies of Boston Reggae.
STEWART'S | Everett | 9 pm | "On Tap" UK Hardhouse, progressive trance, techno with Jbeta + DJ Fishstix
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "Boston's A-List" Hip hop, old school, and top 40 with DJ B-Spin
SUSHI ISLAND | Wakefield | Akiko + Jack Senier
SWEETWATER CAFE | Boston | Old and new dance hits with DJs KC + Gallo
TANTRIC LOUNGE | 10 pm | "Hookah Friday"
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 9:30 pm | First Class
TOAD | Cambridge | Chris Canty Band
TOAST | Somerville | "Ladies Night" 80s, New Wave with DJ 9-1
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Chris Taylor Quartet
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | 70s, 80s, and 90s with DJ Zino; progressive, top-40, club, and international with DJ Peter D
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | "Clandestino: Rock in Spanish Party"
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
VENU | Boston | "Roomba" Latin sounds with DJ Roger M | house with DJ Arsit
VERTIGO | Boston | "Dream Lounge" international, Latin and house with DJ Marcocci | vocal and high energy house with DJ Soulheris
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 9:30 pm | Jason Palmer/Warren Wolf Jazz Collective
WATERWORKS | Quincy | Lune
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | Sights
WESTERN FRONT | Cambridge | Roots Nation
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40 funk and dance with DJs Gabe + Lazee Boy
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | Emily Crogan Band
ZUZU | Cambridge | "Latin Night" with Gian Carlo Buscaglia

The Middle East
472-480 MASS. AVE, CAMBRIDGE
(617)864-EAST www.mideastclub.com
DOORS AT 8PM UNLESS NOTED. PROPER ID REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT Middle East Box Office 1-7p.m. and
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ALL SHOWS 18+ UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED OPEN FOR LUNCH AS ALWAYS

UPSTAIRS

THU 08/25 ABERDEEN CITY
TAXPAYER • FACES ON FILM
THE PLAIN JANES

FRI 08/26 TODAY IS THE DAY
VIOLENT MARY (MONTREAL) • ICHABOD
BURY THE NEEDLE

SAT 08/27 BLING KONG
HELLS BELLES
(ALL FEMALE AC/DC TRIBUTE)
BABY BOY H • THE RAMONIACS

SUN 08/28 OVER THE EDGE
TOMORROW THE GALLOWS
THE MCGUINNS (CD RELEASE)
PURE IMPACT

MON 08/29 ALOHA (POLYVINYL RECORDS)
THE NARRATOR (FROM CHICAGO)

TUE 08/30 FRACTION
NATURAL CHAOS • BORN MORBID

WED 08/31 THE VOLUME
SHORE LEAVE • THE NIGHTLIGHTS
FELLOW PROJECT

THU 09/01 ONSLAUGHT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS:
DIBIASE
FAREWELL RADIANCE • SINAPSE
TRIPLOCK (CD RELEASE) • DRIVEN

FRI 09/02 ROCK EN ESPANOL
WITH MODELO '78

SAT 09/03 SONS AND DAUGHTERS
(FROM GLASGOW, DOMINO RECORDS)
JEFFREY LEWIS

SUN 09/04 PTL KLUB
ADOLF SATAN • THE OLD MEN
PICNIC OF LOVE

MON 09/05 TRAKTOR PRESENTS:
FIRES
THE MOGGS • INVISIBLE
STU WALKER

UPCOMING
09/06 THIS CAR UP, THE SHILLS
09/07 KENWOOD DENNARD, IAN RAPIEN
09/08 FRAGILE, ANUN BA (CD RELEASE)
09/10 MEAT DEPRESSED (CD RELEASE)
09/11 DUFUS, MTN MOJO AUTHORITY
09/12 PINOCCHIO SYNDROME, PILES
09/13 JASON ANDERSON, TIGER SAW
09/14 PORTASTATIC, MARY TIMONY
09/15 FREEFALL, CHIMP SIMPLE (CD REL)
09/16 RUBIKON, HYDRONAUT
09/17 POLYSICS, THE TALK - 1 PM ALL AGES
09/17 SUPERPOWER (CD RELEASE) - 9PM
09/18 DIE HUNNS, KINGS OF NUTHIN - 1 PM
09/18 THRILL RIDE, THE VERSHOK - 9PM
09/19 DIAMOND MINES, HOCKEY NIGHT
09/20 SABBAT, THE CHASM, WATCHMAKER
09/21 MORTICIAN, BANE OF EXISTENCE
09/22 IV DIFFUSION, HUMANKIND
09/23 CLIMB, SUPERVAIN, THE NAKED SAINS
09/24 WHICK ASS EGYPTIANS (CD RELEASE)

DOWNSTAIRS

THU 08/25 "HI-5: BOSTON ROCKS FOR GENEROSITY - AIDS / HIV BENEFIT":
TODD MARTIN • JAKE AMERDING
SKY CIRCUIT • RANE

FRI 08/26 RUBIKON
THROE (FINAL SHOW)
CROWNE VICT • HEPBURN
SCREAMS OF ERIDA • CLAYMORE

SAT 08/27 ON THE DROP
PARANOID SOCIAL CLUB (CD REL)
SUSPECT • FEAR NUTTIN BAND

SUN 08/28 KICKED IN THE HEAD
(FINAL SHOW)
DEAD ELLINGTONS • THE SHARKING

TUE 08/30 ENGINE DOWN
(FINAL BOSTON SHOW)
BELLA LEA (EX DENALI)
DES ARK
ALL AGES!

THU 09/01 RAINER MARIA
HAIL SOCIAL (POLYVINYL RECORDS)

FRI 09/02 12CENT 10TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW:
PLAN B
12CENT • CONFRONT
JEEPERS H CRACKERS • PLAN 17

JUST ADDED
10/14 - JONATHAN RICHMAN AT THE SOMERVILLE THEATRE
10/27 - MILEMARKER
11/06 - DIOS (MALOS)
11/13 - THE DETACHMENT KIT

UPCOMING
09/03 XIU XIU - 1 PM ALL AGES
09/03 MEET THE DAY - 8PM
09/07 MOISTBOYZ
09/08 SUFJAN STEVENS AT THE SOMERVILLE THEATRE
09/08 ALPHA BLONDY
09/09 APOLLO SUNSHINE (CD RELEASE)
09/10 KOOL KEITH, KUTMASTA KURT
09/11 OF MONTREAL - ALL AGES
09/13 MOLOTOV
09/14 DEERHOOF, WHY?, NUMBERS
09/16 PREFUSE 73, IREPRESS (CD REL)
09/17 CHIZH & CO (FROM RUSSIA)
09/18 LUCERO
09/20 MINUS THE BEAR

ZUZU
MUSIC BEGINS AFTER DINNER. 21+
THURSDAY - KRISTEN FORBES
FRIDAY - LATIN WITH GIAN CARLO BUSCAGLIA
SATURDAY - SOUL-E-LU-JAH
SUNDAY - CENTRAL SQUARE HAYRIDE - ROCKABILLY NIGHT
MONDAY - RANDINA CORDOVA, STEPHEN BRODSKY
TUESDAY - ELECTROBOGICAL
WEDNESDAY - TBA

CORNER
SUN - BELLY DANCING W/ DJ CARABED
MON - OPEN MIC NIGHT
TUE - NOCHE MEXICANA W/ GUSTAVO & ANDRES
WED - BELLY DANCING WITH HYE FUSION
THU - WORLD MUSIC SERIES
FRI - BJ SNOWDEN
SAT - TBA - CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

THE MIDDLE EAST HAS A CT ALL ROOMS AIR CONDITIONED
WWW.MIDEASTCLUB.COM

INSTITUTE play the Paradise on Monday.

ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Reverbate" with Mark Estrada
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | Disco, motown, and classics from the 80s & 90s with DJ John Reed
FELT | Boston | 10 pm | "Hush Saturday" with Ricky Fatts
FOUNDATION LOUNGE | Boston | 70s, 80s, funky disco, motown with DJ Edward Grant Stuart
THE GOOD LIFE DOWNTOWN | Boston | Jim Porcella Trio
GRAND CANAL | Boston | Swerve
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | "The Plan" with Big Digits + King God
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Grumpy Jones
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | "Live Salsa Party" with Kilombo Mambo
G-SPOT | Boston | "Deep, sexy house" with DJs Mike Traylor + Paul Incus
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | Rose Hill Drive + Freight Train
THE HARP | Boston | Benderz
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Incadence
HONG KONG | Cambridge | Top 40 Hip-Hop, Rock & Club Classics with DJ Chris G
I/D | Boston | "Life Ladies' Night"
JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY | Somerville | 7:30 pm | "Coxen and Johnson Sketch Comedy Show" with Chris Coxen + Nate Johnson + Walsh Bros + Dan Sally
JOEY MAC'S | "Sumptin Special"
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Temporary Thing
JUKEBOX | Boston | Top 40 and retro dance night
THE KELLS | Allston | "Celebration Saturday" with DJs Darren Drag + Kieran
KIRKLAND CAFE | Somerville | Zagnut + Betty Ford Pickup + Hixx + Propergander
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Marianne Solivan
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | Juliet Lloyd | 9:30 pm | Shiner Jones
MADFISH GRILLE | Gloucester | Ryan Montbleau
MARQUEE | Boston | DJ Murray
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Bling Kong + Hells Belles + Baby Boy H + Ramoniacs | Downstairs | On the Drop + Paranoid Social Club + Suspect + Fear Nuttin Band
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Turnstyles" with Stickman Productions
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | Fathoms
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 2 pm | "Wizardface Rockathon" with Harry & the Potters + Uncle Monsterface + Kickball + Mt. Gigantic | 9 pm | "Mango's Latin Dance Club" with DJ Antonio Ortiz
MR. DOOLEY'S TAVERN | Boston | Inchicore
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Folkcore + Mr. Ect
OPAL LOUNGE | Boston | 10 pm | "CandyShop Lesbian Night"
ORLEANS | Somerville | DJ Gabe
PADDY O'S | Boston | Spike the Punch
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Ryan Dupont Band + Marwood
PARRIS | Boston | Candiflyp
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Summer Villains + Beau Roland Band + Tom Foolers + Hilken Mancini with Emily Arkin
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Boom Boom Room" new wave + disco with DJ Vinny
THE PLACE | Boston | VJ Laptop Q | Boston | 9 pm | DJ Profenna
THE RACK | Boston | 9 pm | "Sound Factory" with DJ Brian Roche
RALPH'S | Worcester | Bee's Knees + Brett Rosenberg Problem + Thinner
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | DJ Cherry
REGATTABAR | Cambridge | 7:30 + 10 pm | Idinda Menzel
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Music for the People" with Steve Sullivan
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | House with DJ Marc Farrell
THE ROXY | Boston | 10 pm | "Show Saturdays"
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 9:30 pm | Jennifer Matthews
SCRUFFY MURPHY'S | Dorchester | "Party Time" with DJ Jen
SCULLERS | Boston | Michael Franks
SEA NOTE | Nantasket Beach | Lil' Brian & Zydeco Travelers
SISSY K'S | Boston | 4 pm | Matt Browne | 8 pm | Kevin Kirrane | Upstairs | "Dance Party" old school and new dance with DJ Tom McKenna
SIT 'N BULL PUB | Maynard | Love Dogs
SOLSTICE CAFE | Mission Hill, Boston | 10 pm | Legends of the Hidden Temple
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | Hip hop and top 40 with DJ B-Spin
SUSHI ISLAND | Wakefield | Maggie Scott Duo
SWEETWATER CAFE | Boston | Old and new dance hits with DJs KC + Gallo
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 9:30 pm | First Class
THIRSTY SCHOLAR PUB | Somerville | DJ Sean
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Greg's Saturday Showcase" | 10 pm | Tennessee Hollow
TOAST | Somerville | "Sexy Saturday" hip-hop, reggae, dance with DJ 9-1
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Chris Taylor Quartet
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | 70s, 80s, and 90s with DJ Zino | progressive, top-40, club, and international with DJ Steve Anderson
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Information + Thunderbirds Are Now! + Cyanide Valentine + Rahim
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
VAPOR | Boston | "Crosswalk" with DJs David Skye + M.J.
VENU | Boston | European disco house with DJs Javier + Nico | "Mythos" ethnic house and Greek sounds with DJ Yorgo
VERTIGO | Boston | "Vertigo Saturdays" hip hop, R&B, house, and reggae with DJ Ron Steel
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 9:30 pm | Jason Palmer/Warren Wolf Jazz Collective
WATERWORKS | Quincy | Fasttimes
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | Iguanas
WESTERN FRONT | Cambridge | Rebel Martin
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | Top 40 funk and dance with DJs Gabe + Lazee Boy
WHO'S ON FIRST | Boston | 10 pm | DJs Garfield + Disciple + Nate
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | Bajuco + Color & Talea
ZUZU | Cambridge | "Soul-le-lu-Jah"

SATURDAY 27

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | Charms + Muck & the Mires + Prime Movers + Softcore | Pubstage | Andrea Cillis
AMAZING THINGS ART CENTER | Framingham | Ball in the House
ANTHEM | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Fever"
AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Sizzlin Saturday" hip-hop with DJ G Squared
ARIA | Boston | "Ecco," international and vocal house, with DJ Roger M. In the Angel Room, "International Saturdays"
ATLAS DANCE | Boston | "Top 40 Dancing"
AVALON | Boston | 10 pm | DJ Adilson
AVENUE ONE LOUNGE | Boston | 7:30 pm | Leah Souza Trio
THE AVENUE | Allston | 5 pm | "Acoustical Pop" with Ali | 9 pm | House with DJ Munroe
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | "Seductive Saturday" Hip-hop and Reggae with DJ Clen
THE BEACHCOMBER | Quincy | Joshua Tree + Lincoln Conspiracy
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | Commercial dance and R&B
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Casey
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | Interactive video Top 40 Dance & hip-hop party with VJ Johnnie Walker
BUCK MULLIGAN'S | West Roxbury | R&B, rock, and dance with DJ Keith
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers | Downstairs | DJ Du Jour
CLUB CAFE | Boston | "Boys Night Out" with VJ Cliff Cunningham
CLUB HOLLYWOOD | Boston | 8:30 pm | "Glitter Switch Drag Karaoke"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Jess Klein
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Indie Rock Night" with DJ Paul Driscoll
DEE DEE'S LOUNGE | Quincy | Plastic Letters + Sleazies + Red Invasion
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Mixes & Remixes" with DJs Daniel Spurling + Chris Deorio
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | "Knucklehead Night" with McGunks + Nobody's Heroes + Pug Uglies + Nowhere USA
DRUID PUB | Cambridge | "Saturday Social" with DJ Rodney Marable
EMBASSY | Boston | 10 pm | "Sensation Saturday" hip-hop with DJ Val | "Russian Night" with DJ Demetrius
ENCORE | Boston | DesPres & DeGraff

SUNDAY 28

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | "Sunday Evening Ritual" with Eric Saulnier + Jeff Belucci
ARIA | Boston | "Living Room" lounge and vocal house
AVALON | Boston | 10 pm | "Gay Night" house with DJs Tedd Ellson + Escape
THE AVENUE | Allston | "Lounge Night"
THE BEACHCOMBER | Quincy | 2:30 pm | Erin's Melody | 5:30 pm | Fenian Sons | 9 pm | 80s Dance Party
BILL'S BAR | Boston | "Reggae Sunday"
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | "Laid Back Sunday"
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Armen
BOB THE CHEF'S | Boston | 10 am | "Sunday Jazz Brunch"
BRAVO@THE MFA | Boston | "Jazz Brunch" with Ronnie Ron Duo
BULL RUN | Shirley | Dickey Betts
THE BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 2 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 8 pm | "Singer-Songwriter Series"
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | "Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam"
CLARK'S IN FANEUIL HALL | Boston | 9 Pound Bag
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7:30 pm | "Tim Mason's Birthday Bash"
COSTELLO'S | Jamaica Plain | 9 pm | James Merenda's Masked Marvels
COTTONWOOD CAFE | Boston | D Street Band
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Industry Night" with DJ Paul Dailey

DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Mike Tamara
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | Hooker Street Band
ENCORE | Boston | Dorothy Miller & Michael Larson
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Soulkore Sessions" with DJ Nomadic + Kiki Breevlife
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | "Menage A Trois" Brazilian dance and Euro-house with DJ Roland
GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILL | Cambridge | 9 pm | Beantown Project
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Creeping Nobodies + Helms + Piles + Old Haunts
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Grayspot
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | Atlas Falls + Body
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Tom Groleau Band
HONG KONG AT FANEUIL HALL | Boston | "Sinful Sunday"
JACQUE'S | Boston | "Diamond Dunhill's Drag-Ons Review"
JEANIE JOHNSTON PUB | Jamaica Plain | 7 pm | "Open Blues Jam" with Bees Deluxe
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9 am | "Jazz Brunch" | 4:30 pm | "Open Blues Jam" | 9 pm | "Salsa Dancing" with Rumba Na Ma
THE KELLS | Allston | "(Re)Runnin" with Londonboy + G Notorious + Jam-2 + Elyte
KENNEDY'S | Boston. | Noon | Julia Lloyd
MADFISH GRILLE | Gloucester | Jack Lee & Divercity
METROPOLIS | Providence, RI | "Industry" uplifting house and dance anthems with DJ Rick Naples
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Over the Edge + Pug Uglies + McGunks + Pure Impact | Downstairs | Kicked in the Head + Dead Ellingtons + Sharking
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "The Grooveyard" with DJ Yamin
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | "The Grooveyard" with DJ Yamin
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Funk Night" with Ujamaa
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Awkward Thought + Anger & Aggression + Ape Shot + Self-Abuse
O'LEARY'S | Brookline | 7:30 pm | "Irish Music Session"
ORLEANS | Somerville | 7 pm | "Jazz Session"
PADDY O'S | Boston | Sunday's Well
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | Shanghai Valentine + Those Who Wait
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Bump" underground house with DJs Randy Deshaies + the Bump Crew
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | James McKenna Duo
Q | Boston | "Reggaeton Sunday" with DJs Michael Mercado + Rip Hernandez
THE RACK | Boston | 9 pm | DJ Mike Janedy
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Action Sunday" Punk, garage, rock with Dinos + Amy
SISSY K'S | Boston | Greg Luttrell
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 8 pm | Judith Murray Trio
TIR NA NOG | Somerville | Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Jenifer Jackson | 10 pm | "Sunday Night Blues" with Michael Dinallo + Steve Sadler + Dean Cassell + Andy Plaistead
TOAST | Somerville | "Brazilian Night"
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Noon | Lee Childs Group | 8 pm | Marty Ballou Trio
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | "International Night" with DJs Nino + Antoine + Giuliano + Giovanni
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Red Letter Agent + Elysia Falls + Porcelain
VAPOR | Boston | "T-Dance" old school house with DJ Danae
VENU | Boston | "Carnival" Brazilian night with DJ Adilson
VERTIGO | Boston | Caribbean and World Beat with DJ Deville
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | 4 pm | "Jazz Jam Session" with Jason Palmer Trio | 9 pm | Wally's Stepchildren
WATERWORKS | Quincy | Stu Lee
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | 4 pm | Incredible Casuals + Softcore
WONDER BAR | Allston | 9 pm | Johnny Horner & Joe McMahon Ensemble
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Angelica Paganni: Pagan Revel" with the Fairy King | 9:30 pm | "Whimsy"
ZUZU | Cambridge | "Central Square Hayride Rockabilly Night"

MONDAY 29

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Chop Chop + Chris MacFarland + Yvette Graveline
AN TUA NUA | Boston | "Ceremony" goth & industrial
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | "Static" Gay night drag show with DJ Adilson
BELL IN HAND TAVERN | Boston | "Tommy's Jam Session"
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Armen
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | "Martini Mondays"
BRENDAN BEHAN PUB | Jamaica Plain | "Sonic Ginger" down tempo lounge and dub with DJs Martini + Ah Dub
THE BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music"
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Geoff Bartley's Open Mic" | 9:30 pm | Cathy Schumer
CHARLIE'S KITCHEN | Cambridge | 9 pm | Czolgosz + Lili Brugadera + Nazzcar + Rain Delay + Bottle
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Kane Sisters
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Nate Watkins
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | "Beverly Hillbillies Open Jam"
ENCORE | Boston | Clara Lofaro Quartet
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Wayne + Wax
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
FELT | Boston | "SIN: Service Industry Night"
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Koufax + Kevin Devine + Frank Smith
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | "Irish Seisiun"
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | "Havana Club Salsa & Rueda Dance"
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Joe Carson
HOFFA'S SWIZZ ALPS | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Ensemble Karmacity Jazz Project
THE INDEPENDENT | Somerville | 7 and 10 pm | "Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament"
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Yoko Miwa
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Emaline Delapaix
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Aloha + Narrator | Corner | "Open Mic Night" with Roger Nicholson
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Rhythmic Soul Lounge" with DJ KC
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Midway Groove Thang"
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 9 pm | "Acoustic Universe"
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Das Happenings + Estranged Egoscene
O'CONNOR'S | Boston | Cannon Brothers
PADDY O'S | Boston | Gary Hatrell
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | Institute
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Makka Mondays" Hip-Hop and Reggae with DJs Voyager :01 + Uppercut
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | Scott Damgaard
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Weekly Wax"
SISSY K'S | Boston | Justin Beech
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Shwang | 10 pm | Tim Gearan Band
TOAST | Somerville | "Industry Night"
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Marty Ballou Trio
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | "Other Side of the Bear" with Matt Chase & Ryan Ackerman + Dan Rogers + Rob Holmes
VAPOR | Boston | "Piano Open Mic" with Michelle Curry
VERTIGO | Boston | "The Movement" deep house, house, and progressive with DJ Eric Santangelo
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Jose Ramos & the Special Blend
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Brazilian Music Night" 9:30 pm | "The Fringe"
ZUZU | Cambridge | Ramona Cordova + Stephen Brodsky + Kristin from Roh Delicat

TUESDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | Steve Mayone + Verona + Red Letters + Scotch Rocks | Pubstage | Thylacine
AN TUA NUA | Boston | 10 pm | "Lushlife" 80s night
ARIA | Boston | "One Nation Tuesdays" hip-hop, R&B, and reggae with DJ Chubby Chub
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie
THE BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 7 pm | "Open Mic" with Hugh McGowan
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | Upstairs | 8 pm | "Bluegrass Picking Party" | 10 pm | Wilders | Downstairs | 9 pm | "Bluegrass Picking Party"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Jordan Carp
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Nate Watkins
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | Fats Hammond
EMBASSY | Boston | 10 pm | "Industry Night" Hip-hop and R&B with DJ Sunone
ENCORE | Boston | Bobby Femino
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | DJ Master Dock
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | Uncle Trouble
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Dave Leeb
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | Two Timin' Three
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Scott Damgaard
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Geno Delafose
THE KELLS | Allston | "Totally 80s Tuesday"
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Rusty Scott Quartet
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Flynn
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Fraction + Natural Chaos + Born Morbid | Downstairs | Engine Down + Bella Lea + Des Ark | Corner | "Noche Mexicana" with Gustavo & Andres
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Eccentric Yet Eclectic" with the Hand
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | Dr Blues
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | "Classic Karoake"
THE MODERN | Boston | 10 pm | "Lot 36" Latin house with DJ J.C.
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | Glint + Marazine + B.I.T.E. + Octovision
PADDY O'S | Boston | Brian Belcher
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | "Boston Pop Underground Cabaret" with Ad Frank + Amy Miles
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Travel Labyrinth + Hello Operator + Attention + New Wave Dirt
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Diskocentric" eccentric dance music
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Dana Z
REDLINE | Cambridge | "Pressure Drop Presents Red Lounge" with Mr. Rourke
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "In One Ear" with So
SCULLERS | Boston | Aruan Ortiz Trio
SISSY K'S | Boston | Stu Sinclair | Upstairs | "In the Biz Hospitality Night" top 40 and popular dance with DJ Ra-mu
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Matt Hebert | 10 pm | Jimmy Ryan & Hayride
TOAST | Somerville | "Singularity: IDM, Glitch, Electronic"
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Bob Nieske Trio
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Adam Payne + AJ Edwards + Christie Leigh
VAPOR | Boston | "Retro Night" with DJs Danae + Michael Sheehan
VENU | Boston | "Mynt" international sounds with DJ Adilson
VERTIGO | Boston | "Defmatch" electro-backbeat with DJs
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Wally's Stepchildren
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | "Reggae Night" with DJ Bud E Green
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Dr. Brown's Poetry Theatre" | 9:30 pm | "Zenarchy"
ZUZU | Cambridge | "Electrosocial"

WEDNESDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | "Replacements Tribute" with Peasants + AM Stereo + Dirty Truckers + Goldenwest Motor Lodge + Choo Choo La Rouge | Pubstage | Ricky Brennan + Malibou Lou + Jay Allen
BILL'S BAR | Boston | Sam Kininger
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Casey
BREEZEWAY BAR & GRILLE | Roxbury | Jeff Felder
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | "Joe Cook's Blues Jam"
CAPRICE | Boston | 9 pm | Toussaint
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Asylum Street Spankers
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "So You Want To Be an mp3]?: iPOD Playlist Night"
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Big Time
DILLON'S | Boston | 8 pm | "Drinking Liberally: Democratic Drinking Club"
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | Mamadou Diop
ENCORE | Boston | Stacy Baker & Brian Nash
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Heavy Dread" with DJ Highhorse
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
EUROPA | Boston | 10 pm | "Surge Alternative Night"
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | "Explode Wednesday" with DJ Luca
FELT | Boston | "Boogie Nights" with DJ Bruno | "Video Studio Party: XY TV"
FIRE + ICE | Boston | 8 pm | "Open Mic Night"
FLAT TOP JOHNNY'S | 6 pm | "iPod Riot Big Battle" | 10 pm | "Wednesday Night Fez"
THE GOOD LIFE DOWNTOWN | Boston | "Rat Pack Karaoke"
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Scott Damgaard
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | DJ World Unite
HARPERS FERRY | Allston | Uncle Billy's Smokehouse
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Absolute Acoustics
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Ryan Montbleau + Kabir + Darian Cunning
THE KELLS | Allston | "Get Over the Hump" hip-hop, house, and dance with DJ Doc
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Leah Souza
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | Newton Dominey | 9:30 pm | Amelia White + Sarah Borges
LUCY'S | Brookline | 8 pm | Brass Roots
METROPOLIS | Providence, RI | UK progressive, tribal, techno, and deep house with DJs Hoska + Cliff
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Volume + Shore Leave + Nightlights + Fellow Project
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Luxury Lounge" with DJ Supreme One
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Musk"
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 7 pm | "Cirque du Singe Brise"
NEWS | Boston | 5:30 pm | DJ Jay Prouty
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | "Get Smart" Motown hits, Jamaican oldies, northern soul, and Trojan reggae with Mile 21
ORLEANS | Somerville | "Slow Mo" with DJ Mona
PADDY O'S | Boston | Buzz
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | "Classic Wednesday" funk, disco, 80s, old school hip-hop with DJ G-Squared
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | Louis XIV
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Alasdair Roberts + Skygreen Leopards + Wooden Wand & the Vanishing Voice + Milo Jones
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Recycle" with DJs Pat Fontes + Shuman + Mike Walsh
THE PLACE | Boston | Diana Karthas
THE PLAYGROUND | Cambridge | "Open Mic"
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | Peter Gross
Q | Boston | "Violations"
THE RACK | Boston | 9 pm | DJ Ricky
RAMROD | Boston | "Twitch" new wave, goth, industrial with DJ Mac
REDLINE | Cambridge | 9 pm | DJ Turbo
REMINGTON'S | Boston | 8:30 pm | Al Vega Trio + + Johnny Souza
RENDEZVOUS | Waltham | 9 pm | "Wednesday Night Open Mic"
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | "Primitive Sounds" with Jason Beek + PJ Eastman + Jonathan Gladstone
RYLES | Cambridge | Global Music Ensemble with Penpa Tsering
SCULLERS | Boston | Tony DeSare
SERAFINA | Concord | 6:30 pm | Paul Broadnax + Nathalie Marsh
SIDNEY'S GRILLE | Cambridge | Con Fuoco Music
SIT 'N BULL PUB | Maynard | Grace Ackerman + Two Cat Folk

Continued on p 22

SOMERS PUBS
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Music Listings

@ Paddy O's
33 Union St. • Boston
617.263.7771
Paddy O's
Fri, Aug 26: Joshua Tree
Sat, Aug 27: Spike the Punch

@ Grand Canal
57 Canal St. • Boston
617.523.1112
The Grand Canal
Fri, Aug 26: Dick 'n Jane
Sat, Aug 27: Swerve

@ Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern
77 Broad St. • Boston
617.338.5656
Mr. Dooley's
Fri, Aug 26, 5-9: Sunday's Well
Fri, Aug 26, 9-2: Inchicore
Sat, Aug 27: Inchicore

@ Green Dragon Tavern
11 Marshall St. • Boston
617.367.4972
Fri, Aug 26: The Complaints
Fri, Aug 27: Grumpy Jones

@ Hennessey's Irish Pub
25 Union St. • Boston
617.742.2121
Hennessy's
Fri, Aug 26: Spike the Punch
Sat, Aug 27: Incadence

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Saturday, August 27
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Sunday, August 28
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w/ HOODOO MEN
4:30- 8:30
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with Live Salsa band
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Tuesday, Aug. 30
zydeco master
GENO DELAFOSE
Wednesday, Aug. 31
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RYAN MONTBLEAU
KABIR / DARIAN CUNNING
Thursday, Sept. 1
rock
HIP REPLACEMENTS
Friday, Sept. 2
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TONI LYNN WASHINGTON
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Listings

Continued from p 21

SKY BAR | Somerville | "Dubplate Culture" dancehall/jungle with DJs RXM + Mr. Matt + Gil-T
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | Hip-hop and top 40 with DJ Ren Justice
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 7:30 pm | Silvard Kool
THE TIMES | Boston | 8:30 pm | "Open Mic" with Sam Margolis + Jon Titone
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Beth Boucher | 10 pm | Amy Speace & the Tearjerks
TOAST | Somerville | "Gay Night"
TOMMY DOYLE'S | Cambridge | "Open Mic" with Will Daily
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Bob Nieske Trio
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | "Greek Night"
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Midnight Creeps + Ghetto Fighters + Drab + Casey Dienel
VAPOR | Boston | Latino night with DJ Adilson
VERTIGO | Boston | "Anitya" psy-trance with DJs Dino + Mathwin + Dave Henshaw with special guests
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Wally's Stepchildren
WELLFLEET BEACHCOMBER | Wellfleet | Greenheads + International Penpal
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 7 pm | Murder Elite + Colony Underground | 10 pm | "Gill's Wednesday Night Jam"

THURSDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ABBEY LOUNGE | Somerville | Mainstage | Rock City Crimewave + Blood Vessels + 0700 Club + Anabolics | Pubstage | Chris Bono + Austin & Elliot
AN TAIN | Boston | 5 pm | DJ Keith
AN TUA NUA | Boston | 9 pm | "Thursday Night Live" with DJ G Squared
ARIA | Boston | NYC hip-hop with guest DJs
THE AVENUE | Allston | 7 pm | "Acoustic Pop" with Will Daly | 9 pm | "Dance Your Ass Off" DJ Hoff
AXIS | Boston | 10 pm | DJ Nailz + Tasty + Taner K spinning vocal and progressive house
BILL'S BAR | Boston | Audible Mainframe + Greater Good + Cold Duck Complex
BLARNEY STONE PUB | Dorchester | 80s and today with DJ Scorch
BLUE CAT CAFE | Boston | DJ Casey
BOSTON ROCKS | Boston | 5 pm | "After Work Thursday"
BUCK MULLIGAN'S | West Roxbury | R&B and commercial dance with DJ George
THE BURREN | Somerville | Front Room | 10 pm | "Traditional Irish Music" | Back Room | 10 pm | Swinging Johnsons
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | ChickenSlacks
COMMON GROUND | Allston | "Love Night" 80s, all vinyl with DJ Brian
DEVLIN'S LOUNGE AND BAR | Brighton | "Chart & Dance" with DJ Doc
DICK'S LAST RESORT | Boston | Jennerators
EMBASSY | Boston | "The Glamorous Life" hip-hop & electro party with DJs Susan Esthera + Aphrodite
ENCORE | Boston | Michelle Currie
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Crown Folks Party" with 7L + Tall Matt + Beyonder
THE E ROOM AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE | Brookline | House and acid jazz with DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe
EUROPA | Boston | "Twilight Thursday" Progressive, trance, techno with DJs Justin Carr + Matt Villa
THE EXCHANGE | Boston | "Heaven & Hell" house and hip-hop with DJs Chaos + Mr. Aru
FELT | Boston | "True Music Thursday" with Todd Martin + Kristin Diable
FOUNDATION LOUNGE | Boston | 70s, 80s, funky disco, motown with DJ Edward Grant Stuart
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | Totimoshi + Bury the Needle + Hidden.
GREEN BRIAR | Brighton | DJ JFK
GREEN DRAGON | Boston | Spitting Vinnies
GREEN STREET GRILL | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | "Afro-pop Reggae High Life" with Joh Camara & Jama-Jigi
HANNAH'S | Somerville | Reggae and house with guest DJs
HENNESSY'S | Boston | Crayspot
HOFFA'S SWIZZ ALPS | Cambridge | 10 pm | Boston Afro-Beat Society
HONG KONG AT FANEUIL HALL | Boston | "Hip-hop Thursday"
HONG KONG | Cambridge | Mainstream, house & Reggae with DJ Bob
JACOB WIRTH RESTAURANT | Boston | 6 pm | Clay Brown Trio
JASMINE & KENDALL LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Dan Tepfer Trio
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | Hip Replacements
JOSE McINTYRE'S | Boston | Upstairs | DJ John Tringall | Downstairs | Me & Julio
THE KELLS | Allston | "Fun House" with DJs Edgar + Mike Gioscia
LES ZYGOMATES | Boston | Dimitri Yiannacopoulos Trio
LOBBY LOUNGE AT THE HYATT REGENCY | Boston | 5:30 pm | Andy Baer Quartet
MACHINE | Boston | "Human Thursday" with DJs Sean Caron + Angles
MANTRA | Boston | 10:30 pm | "Mantra Thursday" DJs spin eclectic international, vocal house, & hip-hop
MARQUEE | Boston | "Turn It Up Thursday"
MIDDLE EAST | Cambridge | Upstairs | Farewell Radiance + Sinapse + Triplock + Driven | Downstairs | Rainer Maria + Hail Social
MIDWAY CAFE | Jamaica Plain | "Women's Dance Night" with DJ Mozz & Queeraoke
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | "Aquanet Dance Party" 80s, old school hip-hop, funk, and soul with DJs Casey + CTO + Frank White + Tommee + Knife + Paul Foley
THE MODERN | Boston | 10 pm | "Soma" with DJ Omar
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | "Chords & Discourse: The Music of the Jam/Paul Weller"
ORLEANS | Somerville | DJ Ren Justice
PADDY O'S | Boston | Swerve
PARADISE LOUNGE | Boston | "Reggae Paradise"
PA'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Turpentine Brothers + Demon's Claws + BBQ
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | "Elements" drum 'n bass with DJs Crook + Lenore + MDoc
PURPLE SHAMROCK | Boston | DJ Flanagan with musical guest Jim Plunkett
Q | Boston | "Hawaiian Tropic Model Search"
THE RACK | Boston | DJs Massi + Mike Pardi
REDLINE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Reunion Thursday" with NPG All-Stars
ROGGIE'S | Brighton | Lounge | Tribal House and Break beat funk with DJ Jonathan Theory
THE ROXY | Boston | 10:30 pm | "The Latin Quarter" with special guest DJs
SCULLERS | Boston | Angela Bofill
SEA NOTE | Nantasket Beach | Kalvin Koolidge
SISSY K'S | Boston | Justin Beech | Upstairs | popular dance with DJ Deja
SOLSTICE CAFE | Mission Hill, Boston | 10 pm | Sven Larsen Jazz Trio
SUGAR SHACK | Boston | "College Night" with DJ B-Spin
TERRACE LOUNGE | Boston | 7:30 pm | Eric McFadden
TIR NA NOG | Somerville | Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn
TOAST | Somerville | "Ladies Night" house, trance, techno with DJ 9-1
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | Bob Nieske Trio
TRATTORIA IL PANINO | Boston | "Young Professionals Club"
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | Stillbreather + A Hero Next Door + Junction 18 + Saturn Effect
21st AMENDMENT | Boston | DJ Sean Daly
VAPOR | Boston | "MOCCA" hip hop and R&B with DJs KC + Ron Steel
VENU | Boston | NYC house with DJ Nailz | "ISE-O spa" with DJ Tasty
VERTIGO | Boston | "Diversify Thursdays" soulful house with DJ Fran | UK hard house and progressive trance with DJs JLong + Tek + Catatonic and guest DJs
WALLY'S CAFE | Boston | Francisco Mela Quintet
WEST STREET GRILLE | Boston | "Late Night Lounge"
ZEITGEIST GALLERY | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | "Night of the Living Hammond B3's"

COMEDY

THURSDAY 25

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | Boston | "Boston Attitude" with Greg Howell
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Tribe Improv"
COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | 8:30 pm | "The R-Rated Hypnotist" with Frank Santos
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | "Dan Sally Show" with Dave Horwitz + JJ Leslie + Derek Gerry + Taylor Connelly + Noah Garfinkle Robby Roadsteamer + David Grabiner + Rebecca Anderson + Arik Marks
GRAND CANAL | Boston | "Battle of the Comedians: Open Mic Comedy Night"
IMPROV ASYLUM | Boston | 8 pm | "Summer in New England" | 9:45 pm | "NXT: Up & Coming Talent"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "UnNatural Selection" 10 pm | "The Great and Secret Comedy Show"
JIMBO'S SOUTH RESTAURANT | Braintree | 8:30 pm | Michael Petit + Annette Pollack + Joe Kringdon + Barry Kneller + Chris Trabulsie Tim Kaelin
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | Boston | 8:30 pm | Kevin Knox + Jim Coliton
TRIBE THEATRE Boston | 8 pm | "The Tribe Presents"

FRIDAY 26

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | Boston | "Boston Attitude" with Danny Kelly
COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | Darrell Hammond
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | Tim McIntire + Eric Riley Moore + Seth Earley + Walsh Bros
IMPROV ASYLUM | Boston | 8 and 10 pm | "Summer in New England" | Midnight | "The Night Shift"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Pirate Lives" | 10 pm | "Theatre Sports"
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | Boston | 8:45 pm | Kevin Knox + Jim Coliton + Ben B
TRIBE THEATRE | Boston | 8 pm | "First Kiss" with the Tribe

SATURDAY 27

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | Boston | "Boston Attitude" with Danny Kelly
COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | Darrell Hammond
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | Tim McIntire + Eric Riley Moore + Elisha Yaffe + Ken Reid
IMPROV ASYLUM | Boston | 8 and 10 pm | "Summer in New England" | Midnight | "The Midnight Show"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | | 6 pm | "ImprovBoston Family Show | 8 and 10 pm | "ImprovBoston Mainstage"
NICK'S COMEDY STOP Boston | 8:45 pm | Kevin Knox + Jim Coliton + Ben B
NICK'S MAUI | Brockton | 9 pm | Artie Januario + Mike Kotroubis
YERADI'S RESTAURANT | Newton | 9 pm | "Laughter in the Lake" with Rich Custus + Myq Kaplan + Sarah Blodgett + Tom E. Morello + Charlie Hatton Mike Oster + Matt Wininger + Matt Lohnes + Todd Sharek

SUNDAY 28

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | Boston | "Open Mic Night" with Danny Kelly
CHARLES PLAYHOUSE | Boston | 8 pm | "Comedy Fiasco"
COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | Mike Donovan + Dan Hirshon
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | "Erin Judge Presents" with Charlie Hatton + Joe Wong + Peter Bowers
EMERALD ISLE | Dorchester | 8 pm | "Big Funny Sunday" with Corey Manning + + Chris Tabb
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | "Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree"

MONDAY 29

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | 8 pm | "Amateur Showcase" with Kevin Knox
KENNEDY'S | Boston | "Comedy Night"

TUESDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | Paul Nardizzi + Robbie Printz

WEDNESDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | Patty Ross + Harrison Stebbins
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | "Tony V Experiment" with Bob Hagearty + Mandy Donovan + Blake Maddux + Peter Dutton + Greg Howell Amanda White + Cary Sohmers + Johnny Foran
EMERALD ISLE | Dorchester | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Rich Custus
IMPROV ASYLUM | Boston | 8 pm | "Lost in Boston . . . Or How I Learned To Love That Dirty Water" | At 9:45 pm | "Lottery Live!"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Hump Fringe Show"

THURSDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT | Boston | "Comedy Showcase" with Greg Howell
CANTAB LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Tribe Improv"
COMEDY CONNECTION | Boston | 8:30 pm | "The R-Rated Hypnotist" Frank Santos
COMEDY STUDIO | Cambridge | "Dan Sally Show" with Ellen Moschetto + Tony Pike + Shane Mauss + Jesse Gersten + Kris Earle Sean Sullivan + Paul Day + Shane Webb
GRAND CANAL | Boston | "Battle of the Comedians: Open Mic Comedy Night"
IMPROV ASYLUM | Boston | 8 pm | "Summer in New England" | At 9:45 pm | "NXT: Up & Coming Talent"
IMPROVBOSTON THEATRE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "UnNatural Selection" | 10 pm | "The Great and Secret Comedy Show"
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | Boston | 8:30 pm | Kevin Knox + John Joyce
TRIBE THEATRE | Boston | 8 pm | "The Tribe Presents"

CONCERTS

THURSDAY 25

BEACH BOYS | Thurs 8 pm | Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom, 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton Beach, NH | $39 | 603.929.4201 | Sat 4:30 pm | Cape Cod Melody Tent, 21 West Main St, Hyannis | $40-$52 | 617.931.2000
DOWN DOG | 6 pm | Adams Park, Washington and Cummins Highway, Roslindale | Free | 617.327.4065
LONESTAR | 8 pm | South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St, Cohasset | $38.50-$50.50 | 617.931.2787
MIGHTY SHADOW | 6 pm | Reggie Lewis Center, Columbus + Tremont Sts, Roxbury | 617.694.7083
ORVILLE GIDDINGS BAND | 7 pm | Crane Estate, 290 Argilla Rd, Ipswich | $20 | 978.356.4351
JEFF PITCHELL | 6 pm | Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowe's Wharf, Boston | Free | 617.439.7000

FRIDAY 26

GAELIC STORM | 7:30 pm | Boarding House Park, Lowell | $10 | 978.275.1783
MARK ERELLI TRIO | noon | Harborwalk, outside the Children's Museum, Congress St, Boston | Free | 617.269.3677
MEGADETH + DREAM THEATER + FEAR FACTORY + DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN + NEVERMORE | 6 pm | Bank of America Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave, Boston | $35-$45 | 617.931.2000
ROCK & BLUES CONCERT CRUISE | with Beatlejuice | 8 pm | 1 Long Wharf, Boston | $25 | 800. 594.TIXX
STEVE MILLER BAND + BOB WEIR & RATDOG | 7 pm | Tweeter Center, 885 South Main St, Mansfield | $20-$45 | 617.931.2000
TIM ZIESMER'S AMPERSAND | 8 pm | Artists-at-Large Gallery, First Congregational Church, 6 Webster St, Hyde Park | $10 | 617.276.3223

SATURDAY 27

ESSEX MUSIC FESTIVAL | with Sweet Loretta's Snakeoil Jug Band + Old Cold Tater + Daisy Nell + Captain Stan + Tom Eaton & Pick 3 + Chick & Ellen + Julio Bare + Orville Giddings Acoustic Band + Backwoods Ramblers + Jack Schwartz + Bob Kramer Bnad + Paul Prue + Allan Aunapu + Herb Smooth + Carol Littlefield McIntyre + Josh, John & Caroline + Dusty & Joanna + Bob Strom | noon-7:30 pm | Centennial Grove, Rte 22, Essex | $5 | 978.468.6581
HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH | 7:30 pm | South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St, Cohasset | $40.75-$52.75 | 617.931.2000
TOBY KEITH + LEE ANN WOMACK + SHOOTER JENNINGS | 7:30 pm | Tweeter Center, 885 South Main St, Mansfield | $20-$45 | 617.931.2000
LATINO TOUR 2005 | with Milly Quezada + Raulin Rosenda + Ramon Orlando Y Su Orquesta El Zafiro + Sandy Reyes + Richie Cepeda + Josie Esteban Y La Patrulla Is + Aramis Camilo + Peter Cruz + Lalo Rodriguez + David Pabon + Paquito Guzman + Tutti Perez | 7 pm | Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 40 East Merrimack St, Lowell | $30 | 617.931.2000
BEACH BOYS | See listing for Thurs

SUNDAY 28

CLAY AIKEN | 7:30 pm | Bank of America Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave, Boston | $38.50-$50 | 617.931.2000
TRAVIS TRITT | 7:30 pm | South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St, Cohasset | $39-$51 | 617.931.2787
CARLOS VIVES | 8 pm | Agganis Arena, 925 Comm Ave, Boston | $55-$75 | 617.931.2000

MONDAY 29

LUIS ALVARADO | 1 pm | John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Boston | Free | 617.261.2440
B.B. KING | 8 pm | Cape Cod Melody Tent, 21 West Main St, Hyannis | $51.75-$63.75 | 617.931.2000
AVRIL LAVIGNE + CAVIN DeGRAW + BUTCH WALKER | 7 pm | Tweeter Center, 885 Main St, Mansfield | $26.50-$75.50 | 617.931.2000

TUESDAY 30

JOHN HIATT + SHAWN COLVIN | 7:30 pm | Bank of America Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave, Boston | $28.50-$38.50 | 617.931.2000
WENDY ROY | 1 pm | John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Boston | Free | 617.261.2440
KENNY WHITE | 12:30 pm | Prudential Center, Boston | Free | 212.749.7221

WEDNESDAY 31

JARED SIMS/ERIC HOFBAUER QUARTET | 8 pm | Artists-at-Large Gallery, 6 Webster St, Hyde Park | $5 | 617.276.3223
BRITT KIRK | 7:30 pm | McIntyre and Moore Booksellers, 255 Elm St, Somerville | Free | 617.629.4840
REMINISCENTS + FREDDY & THE MAYBELINES + TRAX | 6:30 pm | Water St, near Plymouth Rock, Plymouth | Free | 508.747.7727
SEETHER + CROSSFADE + DARK NEW DAY | 8 pm | Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom, 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton Beach, NH | $320 | 603.929.4201

THURSDAY 1

DAVID MAXWELL'S MAXIMUM BLUES | 6 pm | Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowe's Wharf, Boston | Free | 617.439.7000
JADED MANDOLIN | 7 pm | West Medford Congregational Church lawn, 400 High St, Medford | Free | 781.395.3360
LITTLE FEAT | 7:30 pm | Lowell, Boarding House Park | $10 | 978.275.1783

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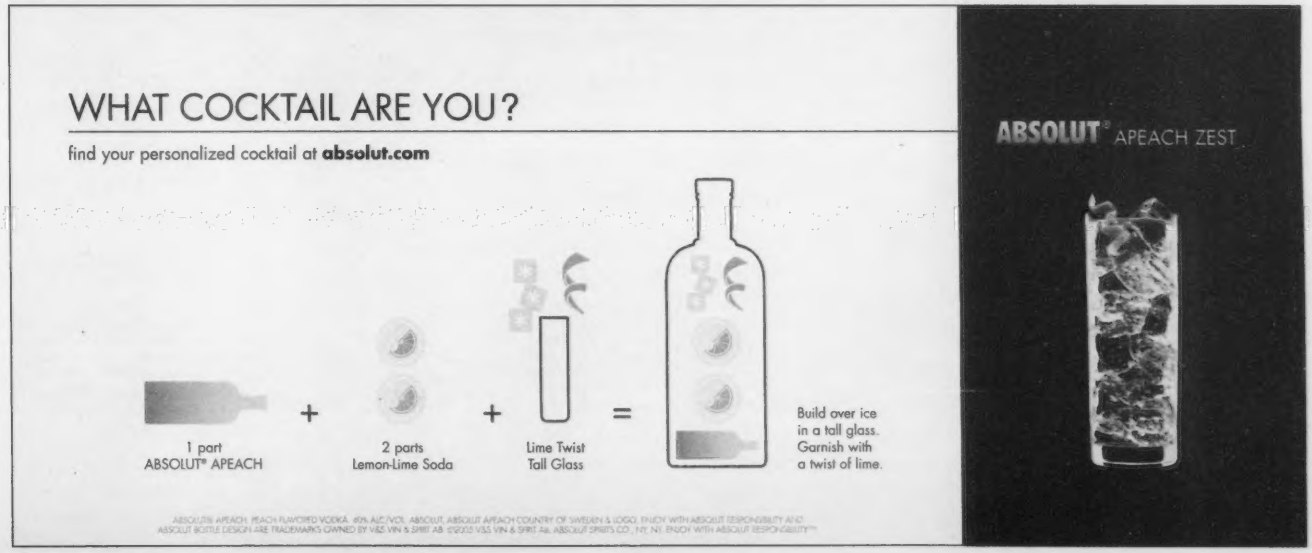
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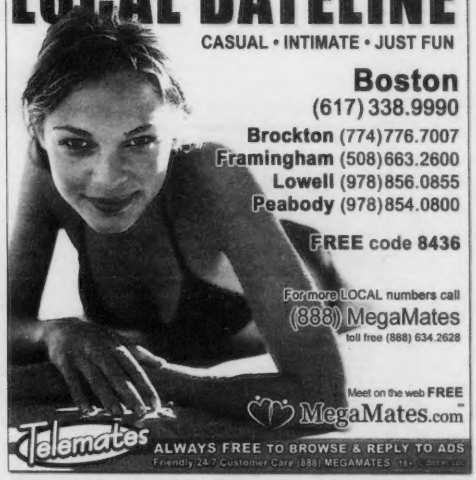

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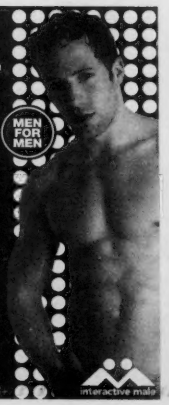

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Horny in Worcester.
Worcester, bi guy, lkg4 someone to hook up with during the day. I would love to hook up right now. Box 99662 (xp 9/4)

Into Lingerie?
Lkg4 a friend to play with while I wear lingerie, heels, and make-up. Love porn and toys. I have an urge to play with some nice c*ck. Box 54632 (xp 9/4)

3-Way Fun?
Waltham, 2 bi-WM, 40's, lkg4 for a 3rd. Lkg4 a guy that likes to lay back and get his cock s*cked and more. Box 62942 (xp 10/3)

Wearing Silk in Boston.
Bobby, attractive, bi, love to wear panties and anything silky. Clean. Can somebody tam me? Box 75442 (xp 9/19)

Erotic and Mischeivous.
Bob, 53yo, 5'10, 185lbs, blonde, gd shape, feeling erotic and mischievous. I'm a great conversationalist. Box 34792 (xp. 11/8)

Masculine Top.
Clean cut, clean shaven, brwn/brwn, gd shape, masc top lkg4 fun. Box 52181 (xp 11/28)

Water Sports?
Ashton, Greek guy N. of Boston, 6' 215 lbs, brwn/brwn, clean shaven, hairy chest, big low hangers. Into role playing, water sports, very versatile. Ph# Incl. Box 34271 (xp 11/9)

Red Hair and Love It All.
Ron, 60yo, WM, red hair, 7" cut, versatile and lonely. Love sex, sucking cock, cum, love it all. Ph# Incl. Box 23751 (xp. 11/4)

Lkg4 Company In Dorchester.
Dorchester, lkg2 hook up, 5'11, buzzed, blonde/ blue, med build. Versatile but more of a top. Ph# Incl. Box 34361 (xp 9/9)

Lets Hook Up.
WM, 6'1, 6.5" cut, clean and discreet, lkg2 hook up, make new friends and for a discreet relationship. Box 10491 (xp 9/29)

Lets Get Acquainted.
Greater Boston area, Bi-M, 5'8 170lbs, 7.5" uncut. Lkg4 anybody who is bi or gay prefer btms, must be weight/height proportionate, 35+. Box 34861 (9/28)

Dentures?
WM, gd lkg, tall, drk/drk, nice endowed. Lkg4 an older gentleman with dentures for good oral service. Any takers? Box 46111 (xp 11/1)

Let Me F*ck You.
Nice thick cock. I would love to f*ck someone's ass and get my cock s*cked off. Box 96401 (xp 11/2)

Naughty in the Bed?
Back Bay, 43yo, nice runners build, 5'11 170lbs, D/D free, expect the same. Lkg4 guys around my age, down to earth, gd shape, hot guys who just want to hook up. Box 83701 (xp 9/17)

Nashua Top.
Ron, Nashua area lkg4 someone local. I'm a definite top, 5'5 134lbs, brwn/hazel, 6.5" uncut with a fat head. Lkg4 btms willing to service. Ph# Incl. Box 16491 (xp 9/15)

Versatile and Lonely.
Ron, 59yo, 5'3, great shape, 7" cut. Lkg4 the right guy. Love the beach, sun, art, going out and staying in. Please don't be shorter or overweight. Box 23921 (xp 11/6)

Tight and Tan.
N. Quincy, 27yo, 6' 150lbs, 8" uncut, black/brown, very versatile. Avail late mrngs to late afternoon. Love to have my dick s*cked and cum swallowed. Prefer cut, athletic, WM's. Ph# Incl. Box 34911 (xp 8/31)

Muscular Italian Top.
Musc. Italian top, tight build. Lkg4 tall lean bubble butt. Box 84501 (xp 11/8)

Let Me Suck On Your Toes.
Tall BM, top lkg4 submissive btms. Must be clean, fexible, and have very small feet that I can suck on. Box 78631 (xp 11/8)

Horny in the S. End.
Pete, very horny, would love to play. Really into getting naked and getting my dick worked on. Box 26661 (xp 11/9)

Tops Only.
Billy, 45yo, Bi-WM, 5'9 185lbs, brwn/brwn, 6.5" cut, shaved. lkg4 top, cut men that like to give orders that enjoy bending me over. Box 10391 (11/9)

Horny, Hot and Hung?
Curious, JP area, 40yo, D/D free, recently divorced. Seeking young guys and married men. Be hot, horny and hung and I will service you. No reciprocation nec. Box 49741 (xp 11/10)

Let Me Be Your Slut.
25yo, 5'10, 185lbs, brwn/brwn, shaved, CD, love to dress in lingerie. I want to be a slut for my daddy. Box 34541 (xp 10/29)

Fast talker for fun.
Positive hispanic male, 43 but look 30, 135lbs, 5'6 excellent health, 8.5"uncut, You be 5'6-5'9 140lbs color doesn't matter. Box 85591 (xp 9/17)

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Pig slave needed!
Dom top lkg4 pig slave. Box 63947 (xp 9/8)

Hot Latino bottom.
Hot latino bottom 25yo 5'7 132lbs dark skin/eyes Allston/Brighton lkg2 hook up. I will do anything with a wild top. Box 57857 (xp 10/11)

Screwing around.
Hot and horny. Vers. Like to get into giving/receiving. Let's screw around. Box 51477
(xp 10/27)

Super service.
Be over 40 S. of Boston for happy c*ck s*cking. Give me your phone number and spec. time to call. Can host or travel. No phone tag. Box 51257 (xp 10/4)

Til completion.
Sam from Cape. 5'11 150lbs slim and trim. Like to be spanked tied up told what to do. Like anal and swallowing til completion. Box 33526 (xp 11/19)

CD for role play and toys.
40yo CD. Do not pass on Cape Cod. Love dressing up videos role-play spanks like to service/get serviced. Friends for a good time. 8"cut 6' blue eyes smooth. CS safe sane discreet lkg4 same. Box 17012 (xp 9/27)

Body contact.
Donald. Worcester. 50yo 5'2 stocky build hairy body. I'm a top seeking really hot uninhibited cum guzzling btm near me. Love body contact. Be sincere. Box 97192 (xp 9/12)

Looking to Play.
Good lkg, nice dick, 6' 200lbs, Italian-Irish. Moderately hairy, married, clean and disease free. Lkng2 play with another couple or single. I need to travel. Box 74142 (xp 9/28)

Married or bi guys.
W-BiMM 6' dark hair hazel eyes CS hairy chest, but fairly smooth 52yo 8.5"cut a little bit more dom. Lkg4 Bi/M guys 30-45 for self respecting mutually rewarding times. Box 60772 (xp 9/7)

Sub cocksucker.
Lkg4 married or bi guy that wants to get serviced. I'm a sub c*cks*cker that enjoys a lot of cum. Jeff. 6'3 sandy blond/green eyes. Box 68972 (xp 11/20)

Do you like the scene?
N of Boston. Lkg4 dominant guys into kinky role play. Get a buzz and become a submissive slut btm. Like to fully CD. S*ck swallow spanking. Lkg4 transexuals or a dom guy. Ph # incl. Box 27672 (xp 9/2)

Oral only.
CC prof guy Boston area 40yo 5'8 170lbs dark/dark med/avg build in shape do work out clean discreet. Lkg4 someone to service me, but can recip. Lkg4 prof bi guy. Box 63802 (xp 8/31)

Help me out.
BiWM Italian 50yo lkg4 company in Woburn area, 5'9" heavyset clean discreet. Lkg2 get bi*wn, b*lls licked. Lkg4 20-35yo, clean guys into showing off for an older guy, wear anything tight. Have problem getting erection so you must help. Box 78002 (xp 11/22)

Service with a smile.
Love to s*ck cut c*ck 42 GWM D/D free. Seeking married men and college students over 18. Let me blow your sneakers off and suck you dry. Box 12061 (xp 10/21)

Daytime bottom.
43yo MWM bi-curious lkg4 a btm and give me what is best. Daytime is best. Box 67781 (xp 11/18)

Degree in history.
Chris. Want to start a friendship with older man 65-75. I relate better to older people. I'm 44yo 185lbs, 5'11, long brown hair. Coll. Grad with degree in history. Love physical activity and new things. Box 53221 (xp 9/8)

Just be OLDER!
Over 50? Like getting naked with another guy? Watching another guy being watched? Helping each other get off? Nudism? Exhibitionism? I'm 51yo gdlkg decent shape and lkg4 older guys. Box 23161 (xp 9/26)

Take your time.
Hispanic male 6' 170lbs 30yo coming out, bi curious lkg4 a curious top to try it on a first timer. Want to s*ck a d*ck and get f*cked. Want you to take your time. Box 19091 (xp 9/19)

CD On The Cape.
6' 225lbs blonde/blue, clean shaven, smooth. I love role-playing, getting spanked, sucking, and watching videos. Gdlkng and masc top I want to be your girlfriend. Ph# Incl. Box 17011 (xp 11/2)

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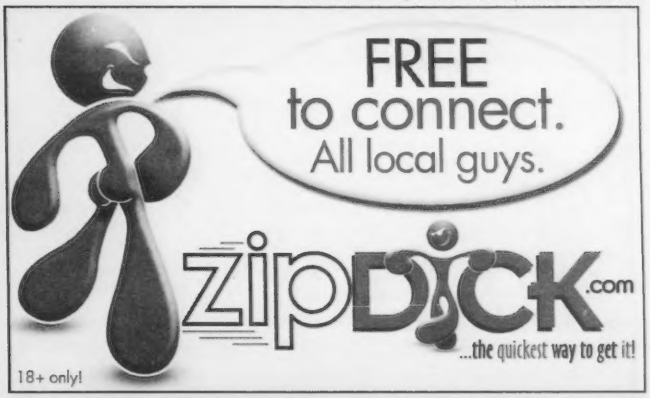

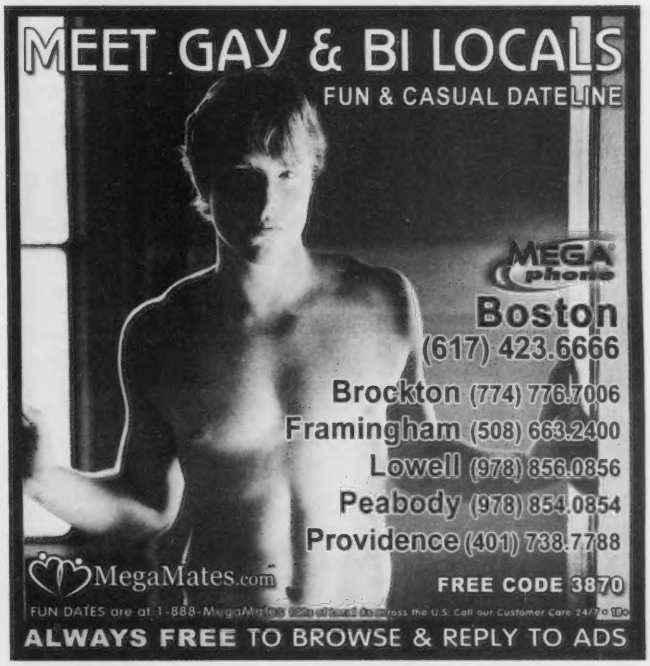

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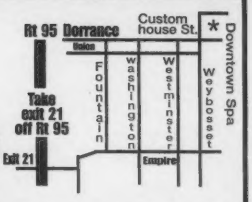

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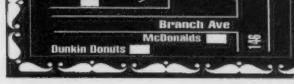

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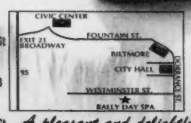

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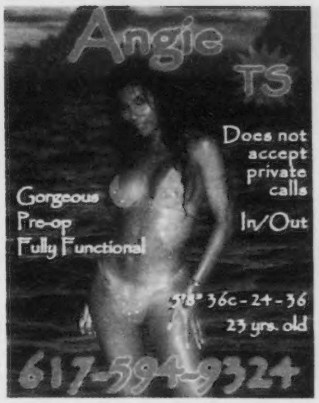

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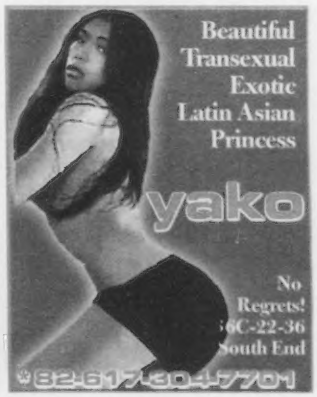

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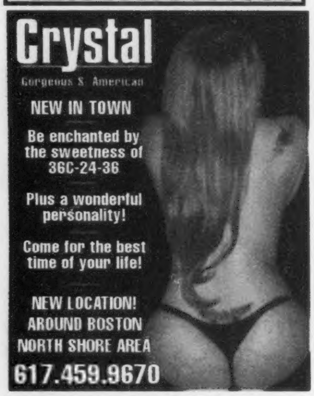

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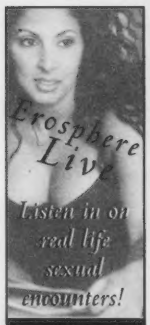

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Dear Miss Adventure,

My girlfriend is a gorgeous pre-op and I love going down on her and making her squirm with pleasure. Recently, we were driving along the Mass Pike; as seat and I was in the passenger's. I leaned over and started trying to give her head, but she stopped me and said not only was it illegal, but it wasn't as good as usual. What's the deal?

Chavez, Lee

If you have a question for Miss Adventure please email erosphere@phx.com with the subject 'Dear Miss Adventure'

DEAR CHAVEZ,

Who wouldn't like to break up the tedium of the straight, gray pavement that is the Mass Pike? Some turn up the music, some play "I Spy." You, my friend, give road head. The Road Head Express is a delicious way to travel, but Miss Adventure must impart some knowledge to those who choose to drive with their dicks out before she turns on the green light. Let's put the hormones in "park" for a moment and listen to some advice ala Miss Adventure.

COVERING MY ASS AND YOURS

Before we go any further, here's the disclaimer. Any action that poses as a distraction to the driver of a vehicle- talking on cell phones, eating, having your shlong sucked- should be practiced in a moving vehicle. It is not safe and when one is driving on a public or private thoroughfare, one should always obey the laws of the state. That said, let's pretend Miss Adventure's fans each own three acres of land and can drive around on their private property in their car and have someone lick their respective shafts.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT SPEED BUMP

Giving head to someone who is driving can be thrilling for both the giver and the receiver, but Miss Adventure has some pointers. The giver should keep in mind that the car might hit bumps or potholes at any moment and if teeth are near the manhood, it could be a recipe for danger. The giver should open her mouth especially wide, do a great deal of tongue work, and use her hands to help further encourage the salty soda to drip down her throat. Dirty talk is also key. Between licks and sucks, tell the receiver about all of the nasty, dirty things you would like to do to him.

IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S ME.

Road head is a technique that is not for everyone. Some people are able to keep their eyes on the road while their penis is in a sucking hole, but others find it difficult to concentrate on both the highway and the oral lovin' at the same time. Don't feel poorly is the receiver isn't interested in the offer. It probably has nothing to do with the giver's tonguing skills, but everything to do with the police. Also, keep in mind that it might be difficult for the receiver to climax, especially if an eighteen wheeler is changing lanes right in front of him. Treat road head as an act of foreplay and don't worry if the receiver doesn't spout forth the great white wave. Work that dick like you're sucking money out of it and watch his load explode when you get home.

Hope this helps!
Lustfully yours,
MISS ADVENTURE

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Sorry, cell phones will not work with 976 or 900 numbers. Use your credit card or save money and buy a block of time.

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

OCEAN LOVER
Very attractive, sweet SWF, 33, seeks sincere SWM, 33-53 for regular dates that end with romantic, exciting nights "parking" along the ocean, where we can gaze at the beauty of the moon over the water and listen to the soothing sounds of the ocean as we enjoy each other. Others may watch but are respectful. Serious inquiries only please, all will be answered. Must be D/D free as well as a non smoker w/ no tattoos, piercings, not into swinging. ☎4089

LET'S DO THIS RIGHT
You know you've been thinking about answering some of these ads. What's keeping you from doing it? Is it money? Is it cowardliness? Are you telling me you're intimidated? All I have to say is **you only live once.** So, get over your cowardliness, and **pull out your...um...** wallet, and call me to place your ad or buy a block of time.
No worries, I'll give you a **hot** deal, just call and see.
617 450 8761

SEXY NYMPHO
Sexy, dark-eyed Hispanic female, 25, 5'5", with "anything goes" policy. Into spankings, tickling, toys and more. If you're a tall, wild, attractive man who's very oral and thinks he can keep up, let me fulfil your fantasies. ☎9853

SOMETHING NEW FOR YOU?
SBF, 25, gorgeous lips and thighs, open to anything and very adventurous. Looking to expand my experience and horizons. I enjoy oral and voyeurism. ☎4430

CURIOUS LADY
I am a single 38-year-old smartass, easy on the eyes, and well versed in missionary sex. I have vivid though unrealized fantasies and would like caring and patient partners to guide me through sadistic-free adventures. Portland Maine area. Interested in discreet, good-looking, professional, literate and healthy partners, man, men or straight couples. Sense of humor a must. Again it is important that you can be tender and patient while I learn and we explore. ☎3169

ON THE WINGS OF THE NIGHT
Full of life and incredibly open minded, I seek the same in others. I'm looking for someone who can be a firm yet loving master. I am a willing and well-trained sub who has yet to find the one who can dominate me sexually with both discipline and tenderness. ☎3172

!TAKE THE PLUNGE!
A few of these ads have caught your eye, but you're **scared shitless** to use your credit card in the fear that your statement will read, "I answered an Erosphere Adult Personals ad." **Calm down!** It doesn't say anything of the sort! It will simply say "TPI." **Very coy and discreet, just like you!** So, now that I've relieved you, pick up the phone and **get some real relief.** To use your debit or credit card, call 1-617-859-3335.
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Write your own ad, and get some messages of your own from people who think just like you do! Call me at 617 450 8761 to place your Erosphere Adult Personals ad. Go for it!

FANTASY ISLAND
Attractive, tall, hourglass princess, seeks secure gentleman to fulfill your fantasies. Want to explore the other side of life. ☎1105

PUERTO RICAN CUTIE
Seeking a young lover 18-25 years old, physically fit, D/D free, and very discreet. No strings attached. ☎2711

TOTALLY CURIOUS
Don't know what to write really, but I know that I'm just totally curious to see where that leads. Don't have a particular thing in mind, like I said, just curious...VERY. @ JBCA ☎3253

ALICIN WANDERLAND
I am hot to trot, curious and curious-er. I have big boobs and pretty green eyes. I am always safe. I enjoy role play and exhibitionism. Favorite thing: doing it in forbidden places. ☎2724

SEXY COLLEGE STUDENT
19 year old, S. Shore area college student and dancer, 5'1,108lbs, hour glass shape, nice ass, with a shaved p*ssy. I love being slammed and dominated during sex. Looking for casual sex, male/female. @ IcePrincess720 ☎3566

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS
Gorgeous brunette, very sensual, likes to mountain bike, seeks secure gentleman only. Very accomdating. ☎2161

GOTHIC DOMME
Seeks playful pet. I am 21, 5'2, WF, brown/green. Do you desire someone to explore your wildest fantasies that you thought could never come true? I cater to many fetishes and await your call! ☎3473

BGD BONDAGE BABE
I'm 28, long lovely legs, and into kink. Looking for a man under 45 with culture, flair. Love S&M and toys. Come to my playground! ☎3352

TONGUE PIERCING
I am 20 year-old 5'2" black/brown, 125lbs, tattoos, tongue and lip piercings. Looking for a in shape guy 19+ to have some fun with so if your ready to play, leave me a message. ☎3162

SEX-SEX-SEX
Crazy, kinky female who is into anything and everything you can think of especially girls, bisexual guys, bicurious guys, threesomes, etc. I'm std-free and drama-free. Looking for serious, erotic males and/or females, couples who are down-to-earth, clean and between 21 and 35. Just pure, fun sex. @ mindingutter ☎3090

33SWbiF40DD, 5'0"
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LIP GODDESS
Sweet, voluptuous woman who loves safe sex for 4 to 6 hours a night. Extremely flexible plus sized woman. Looking for men who can go for hours, have their own place, be clean and honest. Blondes and redheads especially! @ lipgoddess ☎2439

YOU'VE FOUND THE BEST!
I specialize in pleasure. Along with this killer body comes a great mind and attractive personality. I'm looking for generous gentlemen to see on a regular basis. ☎2983

CALLING ALL SUGAR DADDIES
I am 22, sexy, and frisky. I am tall clean and discreet. I love to please. I am looking for a man to spoil me and keep me satisfied. ☎2984

TEACH ME TONIGHT, PLEASE
Are you a sexually dominant man with powerful hands and an intuitive approach to BDSM? Because of my strength and independence, my surrender is especially intense. Please be experienced, competent, single and progressive. I'm 50+ and hungry to learn true pleasure. ☎3480

SALT-N-PEPPER?
Sexy Latina woman seeks an older adventurous man, no strings attached, D/D free, physically fit, salt n pepper hair a plus. ☎2945

BLACK BBW SEEKS WM
I am 5'5, with short dark hair, dark eyes, and dark skin, easy going, funny, and never married. I like a man who is funny, intelligent, affectionate, easy going, playful, energetic, and looking to find a lady to date for a real relationship, possibly leading to LTR. ☎9761

BOSSY SPANKER
Beautiful, bossy, slim-waisted hispanic female, aged 31, is looking for a buff, and funny man to spank me. I am open to other BDSM activities as well. ☎1277

STRICT AND SEXY
Beautiful and dominant, sadistic and youn: turn-ons include BD/SM, foot tantilation, humiliation scenes, abusive verbality, CBT, cross-dressing. Seeking subs to worship my body and my mind. ☎4463

JUST A FLING
Want a man, but don't want to date. Just want some sexual adventures. So leave me a message if you want to have fun evenings in Boston with a stunning, classy yet erotic, petite 5'3" lucscious green-eyed blond with rock hard abs. Not an escort. Please be a professional and over 35. You ready to flirt? ☎3424

BLACK BBW SEEKS WM
I am 5'5, with short dark hair, dark eyes, and dark skin, easy going, funny, and never married. I like a man who is funny, intelligent, affectionate, easy going, playful, energetic, and looking to find a lady to date for a real relationship, possibly leading to LTR. ☎9761

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Beautiful, bossy, slim-waisted hispanic female, aged 31, is looking for a buff, and funny man to spank me. I am open to other BDSM activities as well. ☎1277

STRICT AND SEXY
Beautiful and dominant, sadistic and youn: turn-ons include BD/SM, foot tantilation, humiliation scenes, abusive verbality, CBT, cross-dressing. Seeking subs to worship my body and my mind. ☎4463

SHHH...
Very attractive female seeks one clean, discreet gentleman that will take care of me as well as I will be taking care of him. Serious replies only. Only mature gentlemen who knows what he wants and that being a one on one mutual understanding. ☎3153

SLAVE
Definition: Obedient, open or willing to learn and to please, patient, beginner or experienced if you have a knowledge of being humble and a desire to be with a beautiful domina, you may reply. ☎2590

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Sensuous, sophisticated, full-figured 25-year-old blonde beauty in SE Mass, would love to meet an affectionate, mature, kind, gentleman over the age of 45 for dinner and more. ☎2951

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Truly selfless, serious, capable, dedicated domestic slaves are you ready to roll up your sleeves and work hard to serve a very busy full-figured lady executive in Southern Mass? ☎2951

A PERFECT 10!
I'm 24 and new to this. A hottie to say the least. I am looking for someone fun and stable, not too old and please be attractive, and financially secure would be nice. ☎1482

EBONY AND IVORY
I am 5'6", attractive, exotic eyes, dark skin, funny, intelligent, with a great sense of humor. Looking to find a SWM, attractive, sexy, intelligent, and well endowed. You must be romantic and classy. ☎1735

TAKE ME UNDER YOUR WING
I'm very ready for new explorations and experiences. I'm very passionate and sensual to the point of insatiable. I have no previous experiences except in my daily fantasies. Looking for a completely self-confident experienced dominant person to show me the way. Professional well educated person in a safe and trusting environment. ☎1835

BBW SUB SEEKS HUNG DOMME
I am a punk rock, submissive, BBW into spanking, big cocks, and following orders. I want to find a well hung domme who will spank me. Penetration a must, not seeking just light play. ☎9998

MALE SUBMISSIVE NEEDED
Live in male Submissive wanted by Mistress and Vixen. I own room, full house privileges, dungeon on-site. House keeping, cooking, errands and computer savvy required. Gay or straight, clean neat freak preferred. No parties except mine. On the Red Line, part time. Low rent, utilities shared, application and resume, references required. Discretion assured. Not a sexual relationship, but a dominant and worshipped Woman's boy will do just fine. My parties are awesome. You will be the host, butler, server, or footstool. Whatever I say. ☎2357

SENSUOUS AND SEXY
Fun-loving, attractive, long blond hair, petite, hourglass figure seeks, kind, caring, business executive type. Please be serious-minded, clean and discreet. ☎2944

FOOT VIXEN
Female supremacist whose high arches and perfect toes can bring a submissive to his knees. Strapped into a straight jacket, my toes will tease you to the brink of insanity. Inescapable bondage mingled with unimaginable titillation. ☎9049

BIG GIRL WANTS TO LEARN
Anyone want to show me the way? I'm someone that is DYING to come out of her shell. It doesn't take too much once I get going. Enjoy sex greatly, into some pain, biting, and leaving little marks. Help me find some of my hidden desires. I am a big girl at 5'7" and about 250 lbs. Think you can handle it? ☎1437

VERY VOLUPTUOUS
SBF seeking very single WM who are sexually adventurous, and willing to try new things. ☎2346

BIGGER THE BETTER
Sexy, dark-eyed female, 24, 5'1", dark-skinned, 140lbs, turned on by a well-built man, 30-45. Must be well-endowed, 6"+, also romantic, N/S. ☎9237

PENELOPE CRUZ LOOK-ALIKE
SWF, 23-year-old, college student, seeking unmarried professional dominating father-like male, age 25-37. ☎2584

WATCH, PLAY, COMMAND
I have two beautiful slaves, ages 22 and 24, and they are eager to please me. As a Dominatrix, I am seeking a dominant male partner to share in disciplining duties. Come visit us in my lair and We will instruct them on how to please Us. ☎2006

GOOD LIL' GEISHA
Young Japanese student, 21, looking for a sugar daddy to tell me what to do. I'm small boned, with long black hair and a subservient manner. Tell me to get your dinner, your slippers, or do something else! ☎2005 (exp:11.04.05)

MESSY MINDY
Cover me in anything! Drive me wild! I'm 26, wild and crazy, and love to be covered in all sorts of goo or toppings during sex. Turn me into your own personal sundae and devour me from head to toe! ☎1998

HOT CHOCOLATE
African American hottie, 28, great cheekbones, luscious thighs, seeks someone who is ready to drink my warmth. I'm 6'2", but I just want short guys-under 5'8"! Try eating marshmallows off of my belly! ☎1995

LUNCH HOUR FLOWER
Are you looking for a better way to spend your lunch hour? Come lunch on me! We'll meet in a secret location where all of our hot and wild fantasies will come true. Then we'll head back to the cube farm! I'm hot, you should be too! ☎1990

ORAL

Attractive, sexy SWF, 33, 5'5", brunette, nice body, 34C. Seeks SWM, 31+, for reciprocal oral fun, possible LTR. Enjoys exhibitionism. ☎4089

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MEN SEEKING WOMEN

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
IS IT JUST ME, OR IS IT GETTING HOT IN HERE?
And you should be getting hot too. If you are a woman, and want to get in contact with any of the men advertising in this section, then give me a call, and I'll hook you up with some **FREE** respondent time. Go on, you know you've been thinking about it. Call 617-450-8761 for a trial 30 minutes to talk to these fine gentlemen.
617-450-8761
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BRATTY ?
Experience athletic good looking young male.Seeks bratty deliciously sassy 20 something girl for spanking play. ☎3236

WANTED SUBMISSIVE
Petite Asian, Handsome SWM seeks young bi hourglass (D/T massage bondage goth) let me be your master. ☎3235

HARLEY RIDER
48yo, long-time Harley rider, 6' 200lbs, good shape, attractive seeks valuptuous, sexy woman btwn 30-40 who likes a mans mouth all over her. Be clean, D/D free, shaved, somewhat dominant sexually and ready to ride dance and laugh. South Shore area. ☎3475

ORAL FUN
32yo hispanic male, in Boston area, 5'9 175lbs, looking for white or hispanic female 18-35 for straight and oral sex. ☎3164

NUDIST CAMPS
Attractive WM, 6', 170lbs, Br/Br, D/D free, skiing attractive female to go to nudist camps with, no alt. motives, just a companion for trips. ☎3472

THE WHOLE 9 YRDS
Sexy, caring, tantalizing, 6'2", 42 year-old gentleman who happens to love bondage. Hoping for a tall, dramatic partner who is comfortable saying what she wants. ☎3354

DERSERVE A SPANKING?
I'm 39, 6', WM seeking a lady 22-40 that is interested in oral, bondage, role play, and I love spanking. Available for PM meetings and be discreet. ☎3351

SEXY BODIED BOY TOY
Asian boy toy, 24, with a body like a Greek God, very eager to please a sexy, open-minded Domme female who'll tie me up spread eagle & do what she pleases to me. ☎3357

DOMINANT DADDY
I'm 44, 5'11, WM that has a good body and I'm also humorous and adventurous. I love role playing, S&M, B&D, and spanking. ☎3350

LEATHER MAN
WM, 45, 6', 180lbs, bisexual, likes to wear leather from head to toe, seeks males and females to lick my leather and be my servant. I am looking for a sincere relationship. ☎2873

SEXY AND ATHLETIC
I am 36 years old 5'10, black/brown WM. I am a dominating powerhouse thats looking for a fun-loving, open-minded, outgoing woman. I enjoy porn, spanking, fetishes, and woman that are into sports. ☎3359

TEACH ME
Good looking WM in 50's, D/D free, looking for an attractive lady to show me all the ways there are to please her. I'll try anything you want. ☎3163

SCHOOLGIRL LOVER
5jM, 50, 5'9", runner, likes movies, dining out. Loves long walks on the beach...on a leash! ☎3355

SUCCESSFUL & ATHLETIC
Successful, athletic, confident, MWM, 53yo, 6'1, 180lbs. Company CEO w/ homes in mult. states, seeks intelligent, sexy, athletic, SF, 30-45 for dinner, ball games & Cape Cod when I am in Boston. You be D/D free, hip, & look hot in/out of your little black dress or tight jeans. No strings attached, no pros. Lets have some fun! ☎3160

AIRLINE PILOT
Handsome, mature. Would like occasional long term enjoyable encounters with a very slender, mature, uninhibited woman at your place daytimes. ☎3156

I WILL BEG FOR IT
Severely submissive SWM begs to undergo a complete ego destruction done by a demanding and commanding dominant female. I will fulfill your every devilish desire and wicked whim. I will succeed where many other very good slaves have tried so hard but failed. PLEASE, PLEASE call sacred GODDESS. ☎9106

OLD BUZZARD
Discreet MWM, 59, seeks compatible mature female to soar over SE Mass and find that perfect place to roost and enjoy ourselves. ☎3234

COME GET SOME
SWM seeking women 25-50 into voyeurism, oral sex, exploring and fulfilling fantasies, D/D free. ☎3151

BBW SPANK
Novice, dominant WM, 40, 5'9", nice equipment, seeking kinky, fun, full-figured, voluptuous lady for role-playing, B&D, spanking, mutual satisfaction. What's your fetish? ☎3150

JUST FOR FUN
SWM, 45 years old, tall, br/blue, slim, looking for a slim, adventurous female 38-58. ☎2956

MEN SEEKING MEN

SPANDEX SUPERHERO
Wearing silky pantyhose makes me feel sexy and helpless. The soft, tight shiny material hugging my legs is a total turn on. I'm also into Spandex/superhero roleplay and Latex/lube. I Fantasize about being a Nylon and Spandex clad superhero or heroine caught and dominated by a villain. I'm a big guy and I'm looking for a bigger guy to take me and molest me and use me for his pleasure. I would prefer a giant fat man who can make me feel small and helpless. @ salaxpravus ☎3088

BEFORE PENETRATION
Most of my friends would say I have a dominant side. I am 5'6" and 155lbs. Love sensuality - like touching, candles and massage - are as important as sex. Foreplay is fun. I like (lots of foreplay before/going straight to) penetration. ☎3176

BI-CURIOUS
Good looking, in-shape, discreet, and clean bi-curious WM, 33, seeks similar, 20-40, for no strings body worship, massage, maybe more. Feeling under-appreciated? Wife not giving and game? Let's get together. ☎3985

UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES
Need help to get there. Need someone who can get me feeling right, then sit back and enjoy it. If you're feeling really right bring big thick friends to cum over. ☎3167

SOCK/FOOT FETISH
I am a 28-year-old attractive SGM looking to meet another guy into sock and foot worship. Must love other men's feet, massaging, sucking, footsie, sock sniffing. Large shoe size a plus but not necessary. ☎3168

THE BIG STEP
I'm married but have been curious. I use all kinds of toys on myself including an 18" rubber dildo, which I took all the way. I'm looking for one or two men to have a three way with me. No handcuffs. I think I can take anything. I've done oral before, and I do swallow. ☎3174

INTENSELY SEXUAL
Bi-chemist seeking some fun. I'm an older Bi-WM with a Bi/Les 26-year-old girlfriend (who sometimes accompanies me). I am intense and driven by the pleasure principle... just do it. I'm looking for diverse people and pleasures. There's always room for new flavors and textures. Adventurous exhibitionist people are a great deal of fun and a great turn on. ☎3175

SAILOR FOR A MATE
I'm looking for fun times. Lets talk. I love beaches, trying new things with people, love to laugh. Looking for someone who is open minded, likes beaches, going out and open to new things. ☎3205

THREESOME OR MORE?
Looking to have sex with more than one partner, 21-40 at the same time, men or women, for some good clean fun. No strings. That's a huge turn on to me. @ FuloFSin ☎3567

TO SERVE AND OBEY
I'm a good looking, smooth, submissive man and looking for my master to serve and obey. I love to be told what to do. @ sam401 ☎3568

MAKE IT BIG
I'm masculine, very good looking, very discreet and horny looking for a well-hung man who is D/D free. @ HOTMOUTH4 ☎3570

LOOKING FOR FUN
I'm a 23 year old SBM 5'5 200lbs, uncut 6", shy, good looking and easy going but it doesn't stop me from getting caught up in the moment. Any age for sex and discreet fun. @ soboredinboston ☎3517

LETS TRY THIS
I'm 28, clean, safe, hot, sexy and living S. of Boston. I just want to get laid with no strings by someone who knows what to do with my cock. ☎3516

WILLING TO TRY?
Just looking for fun and to try different things, especially oral. Must be discreet and can't meet at my place. @ havinfun1970 ☎3515

EXPLORE MY OTHER SIDE
I'm married and looking for experienced top man in E. Bay area to help explore my other side. Fantasize about being a bottom, though I've only done it once. Free days. @ tragS ☎3496

NAVY VET
Middle-aged WBM looking for someone with same interests and more so I can learn new tricks. I love the outdoors and I'm a Navy Vet that has traveled all over the world. I'm engaged but she knows. ☎3494

COME AND GET IT
I'm a nice guy looking for a man with a sense of humor, open-minded, fun, enjoys physical contact and is passionate like me. ☎3514

ONE MONTH
I am 27 and in town for a month. What better time to have some discreet fun for experimentation. You be someone willing to give and teach and be discreet at the same time. @ hamish500 ☎3086

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OLDER TOP NEEDED
By willing SUB BOTTOM.. Please, oh, please, be older, nice, and of course, endowed. Looking for someone who knows what they are doing, enjoys long sex sessions. Must be a top. @ jhclose ☎3087

JUST LOOKING
Like the title says, just looking. Mostly for normal looking and normal acting people. If you're normal looking and acting, then I'm interested. If you think you're "hot" or God's gift to beauty, keep looking. If you're overweight, I don't care. Just be a nice person. @ Th3h4xS4w ☎2641

I SEEK SISSIES
I'm a dominant type of guy, who's married and knows how to get his way with a woman. I would like to take a sissy-ish, soft, flabby male and turn him into a sexy female. @ bakarai ☎2651

YUMMY SWITCH DADDY
I'm the purrfect switch. I like my partners to tell me what to do and follow my lead in bed. safe, sane and consensual play. I'm interested in BDSM, Sacred Sex/Sex Magic, Role Play and negotiated relationships (ei daddy/boi, slave/master). I'm looking for casual sexual encounters, bar sex, whole weekends together, or perhaps a partner. I'm looking for someone 21 to 40, who I can trust. Someone to help me expand my boundaries, and explore the world together. I can be gentle or aggressive in bed and enjoy aggressive well-endowed men. @ SwitchDaddyUmmm ☎2642

I SEEK SISSIES
I'm a dominant type of guy, who's married and knows how to get his way with a woman. I would like to take a sissy-ish, soft, flabby male and turn him into a sexy female. @ bakarai ☎2651

NEED IT BAD
5'10", male, 165lbs, good looks, nice body, clean, looking for a similar. Let's get together on a regular basis. I love to swallow, and I hope you can show me the back door. @ newcummer48 ☎2391

POWER HUNGRY
Professional male with no time for a relationship. Looking for a man who wants it from someone that's power hungry. ☎ 1936

AFTERNOON FUN
I am looking for a man for daytime fun who wants to explore I am a very open minded individual looking for some safe, discreet afternoon fun. I am very well endowed; tend to be submissive but not always. I like to give. I am looking for some daytime fun with a safe, erotic, open-minded individual who wants to explore their and my sexuality. @ dcsox ☎2652

AROUSE MY CURIOSITIES
32, straight, clean cut, boyish male looking to experiment. Looking for safe discreet encounters. I want an older, educated top. Be a good person who is interested in having fun. ☎9962

LETS GET DOWN AND BOOGIE
Let the night (or day) dictate what happens. Lets laugh and play. Looking for someone to have a good time with who can make me laugh and smile. @ smoothalot ☎3321

VERY HORNY AND HOT
Not into bars or clubs but do like to go out and take long walks. I am gay and willing to try having sex with a couple. If it sounds good hit me up. @ mike19623 ☎3318

HORNY IN N. PROVIDENCE
I'm a bi-sexual horny bottom from north providence looking for other guys in my area to service on a regular basish. Race or married doesn't matter. ☎3320

SEEKING FEMME GUY
Masculine, GWM, middle-aged, seeking femme type GWM, 50-60, for evening or w/e getogethers. Smooth-bodied guys a plus. Enjoy the outdoors and beach. ☎

YEARNING TO RECEIVE
MWM looking to explore the other side. Must be safe and discreet. No LTR desired. You must be a top. @ haosts ☎ 2075

SUBMISSIVE SISSY
I love being soft and femmy. Looking for a hard, strong, dominant man who gets hard for sissies. Make me feel feminine. @ krissyotv ☎1957

SEARCHING FOR AN OWNER
44 years old, clean, MBiM seeks regular meetings with someone that doesn't play head games. Ownership role play is priority. Be D/D free, have good hygiene. Must have place! @ pumper1959 ☎2504

DISCREET ENCOUNTERS
I am a SWM, easy going, average looks, 5'10", 160lbs, 40s seeking another small to medium framed trim male for some safe clean mutually oral and anal pleasures. D/D free. You be too. ☎2588

GREAT ORAL
GWM, 45, seeks clean, hung men, straight/gay/Bi, who enjoys receiving great oral. No reciprocation necessary. I have place. Mass South Shore area. ☎1090

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

HOT TONGUE WET LIPS
26-year-old bi femme, 42D, nice ass, tight puss, looking for discreet fun. Love to have sex. Love anything that involves another woman. Want to try slave role play at least once, and also other things that involve pleasure and pain. I'm looking for another femme who is sexy and open to trying anything at least once and who is willing be sub and dom when commanded. @ hottoungewetlips ☎3092

NEED IT BADLY
Need someone to be with. Been alone too long. I'm average ht/wt looking for a femme. Need someone who loves to play. Can go on for long period of time. Let me tell you I'm the best and will satisfy you in every way. Let's go. ☎3204

HEDONIST GIRL
I'm a cute, but shy girl, that likes to try anything at least once with other cute girls. I like to be told what to do, punished, anything to make you happy. Your girlfriend/boyfriend can watch or help. @ pinupgirl ☎3325

CURIOUS LOVIN'
I am a large girl looking for someone who is willing to be open about sex, but with no strings attached. I often fantasize about women and would like to act out those desires in a discreet way. Won't you show me the way? ☎3323

BI-CURIOUS
Sexy beautiful woman seeking a first time adventure with a female age 25-45. I'm very bi-curious and D/D-free of course. I want to explore my other side with you. ☎9636

COUPLES

YOUNG COUPLE
Couple, 32/30, curious - looking for females/couples. We are a professional couple living in MA. We are curious about alternate lifestyle experiences with a lady (30-45) or young couple (30-45). Please be attractive, sexy, outgoing, VERY CLEAN, VERY DISCREET, and fun. ☎3170

THE BI WOMAN IN YOU
Married 10 years, love my wife and she loves me. Recently thought it would be hot to find a sweet, sexy, heated bi or lesbian to share our extremely hot an dirty sex life with. You will be glad u stay in our bed. Looking for sexy fun down to earth lady not shy who can help show my wife why I love to eat her tight wet juicy pussy. Let's show her together. No men or trans please. ☎3171

A PRETTY LADY
We are two working professionals, and have been dating for 5 years. Now we're looking to have fun. Both new to this. Looking for a pretty, in shape woman that would like to have a fun encounter. ☎3180

THREESOMES
A great couple that is looking for a long term relationship with a cute fun guy. Looking for good times, travel and fun sexual times with a really great couple. ☎3181

CURIOUS IN SALEM
Interested in a social non obtrusive meeting with another couple. We are 34 and 35, professional and looking for some passion. We believe that exploring some fantasies will give us that passion. Very committed married couple, basically, looking for some unadulterated fun! Please be a non-aggressive, attractive like couple in the metro Boston area. Minimal experience is a plus. Let's take it slow and then accelerate it! @ curiousmascouple ☎3252

VIRGINS TO ALT. LIFE
But willing and quick to learn. We are a young married couple who love sex and looking to add a little variety in our life. We are D/D free, easy going and looking for a young couple for adult fun. @ LSAL ☎3569

FREE SWING PARTIES
Small intimate home. Couples and single women invited. N/S, casual and sensual atmosphere. ☎8258

SWING WITH US
Attractive married couple looking for a fun couple to help show us the way of the swinging world. ☎3500

COUPLE FUN
We are an easy going good looking, d/d free couple, looking for a female for some fun. We like to do pretty much everything, not hardcore partiers but like to have fun. ☎3501

STIMULATE MIND & BODY
We are looking for an intelligent, lefty, sexy femme for urban exploration, exotic travel, extraordinary cuisine, intellectual stimulation and erotic play. ☎ 3353

TAKE IT SLOW
Life is good, and we are fun to be with. Sexy, sensual, and curious. We are the type of couple who people love to be around because we are always happy and love what life has to offer. We like to take it slow, and build a good relationship with awesome couples and singles we meet. We are looking for singles or couples who are very attractive because we are too. Lets get to know each other and have some fun. ☎3096

BE CUTE
We are a cute couple looking to excite our sex lives even more. I have done it with a girl and loved it. Now my husband would like to join in. We like to go out and have a good time. I am looking for a girl or two girls that are looking for a good time with me and my husband. You have to be small and petite. You should be cute too. ☎3095

SWAPPING
Couple looking for another couple for a good time. We enjoy threesome and group sex. One-on-one sex doesn't interest us much. We prefer (threesomes/swapping/orgies/other). We are looking for open minded people who are looking to get together to having a really good time in and out of the bedroom. ☎3094

BI MARRIED MALE
Seeks couples for intimate fun. I am very oral. Please be age 30 - 55 and desiring a passive male nympho to please them. @ everest1959 ☎3091

NO INHIBITIONS
We are a MC into new things we haven't tried yet. Looking for a female or couple with no inhibitions who want to enjoy casual encounters with no strings attached. @ thrickeki ☎2637

EXTRA HANDS PLEASE
Strong, clean, sweet couple seeks discreet NSA encounter with a woman of the same caliber. We're a gothic/alternative fit couple. Be clean, well kept, fit and sweetly shaped. Be interested in both of us. @ canweshare ☎2378

SEXY COUPLE LOOKING FOR FUN
Attractive couple of 40/42, looking for other fun, curious couples to meet and have some adult friendship and oral fun. We are non-smokers, D/D free, love to play! @ ally928 ☎3322

WE LOVE SEX
I am 38, shes 30. We are a fit couple. Im looking for a similar couple. Open mind to go out for a drink and if we hit it off, ready to do anything. ☎3158

EAT ME, BEAT ME
Recently divorced guy looking to live life. Try new things and meet new people. I'm looking for someone who is willing to try new things and teach me some new things also. ☎3319

SEXY COUPLE LOOKING FOR FUN
We are a attractive couple of 40/42, looking for other fun, curious couples to meet and have some adult friendship and oral fun. We are non-smokers, D/D free, we love to play! @ ally928 ☎3322

DOUBLE ASIAN
Loving Asian couple looking for new lifestyle. Looking for single man, lady or couple to explore with us. @ cantsleepcpl ☎2444

DOUBLE ASIAN
Loving Asian couple looking for new lifestyle. Looking for single man, lady or couple to explore with us. @ cantsleepcpl ☎2444

COUPLE FOR BABE
We are a very clean, attractive fun loving couple. I love to dominate and be dominated. I love the idea of him watching and joining in. We are great in bed and open to anything. I am 37, full figured, and very attractive, with brown/green, and a full mouth. He is 5'8", blue eyes, biker type, and huge in all the right places. Great sense of humor as well! You be CLEAN, feminine yet domineering, and H/W. ☎1477

EROTIC FUN
Young couple in their 40s looking for a man/men, 30+ for erotic times. D/D free, wt/ht, well-endowed a plus! ☎2946

ALL NIGHT LONG
is how long we can go. I love to please my men, and want to watch him with another woman. Couples and women only. We're not thin; don't expect you to be. We love to share. Fantasy: meeting a couple at a club, going home together, and having one crazy night. Be 30-42. ☎2024

MAKE MY WIFE PURR
Couple seeking to explore sexual fantasies with an attractive, mature woman. Are you the one who can make my wife purr? ☎1938

MATURE COUPLE
Looking for safe, discreet, daytime pleasures with another couple. Let's meet at a hotel. We will take care of the costs. We're in good shape, you be too. ☎2350

50 SOMETHING COUPLES
Looking for a fit and classy couple, that would enjoy pleasuring and getting pleasured by a well endowed gentleman, for playful and erotic times. D/D free very discreet. ☎2061

Attractive gentleman, 50s, likes to see love made. Any gender, age, or style; self-love, too. I just cherish joy and pleasure. Totally discreet. ☎8464

WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU
Bi-sexual, secure couple in 30's looking for mainly bi-males. We aren't perfect-we are real. @ candkforyou ☎3571

THREESOME FUN?
We are a couple looking for some fun and excitement. We've had a threesome before but not for a while. Must be 22-27. Come party with us, you'll love it. ☎3502

FRIENDLY FUN IN MAINE
Central ME couple looking for friendly, fun, outgoing, uninhibited people. All possibilities negotiable. ☎3495

TV/TS?
I'm a Russell Crowe look-a-like that is new to scene. I'm looking for a TV/CD with a big c*ck that is shaved and into short term relationships. ☎3497

BIG SEXUAL APPETITE?
I'm a good looking guy trying to experiment any TV/CD with breast but still pre-op contact me for good times and more. @ goodtymes2005 ☎3498

COME PLAY WITH ME
I'm a bi-curious male who has lots of disappointments with ladies, because I've always yearned for a gorgeous TV/TS. Real breast a +, no butch. ☎3499

STRAIGHT MEN IN RI
Attractive GWM to orally satisfy attractive straight men. Clean d/d free won't be disappointed.Discretion assured. ☎2467

WANTED: 2 STRAIGHT CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
Attractive gay couple wants to orally satisfy 2 attractive straight men. Clean D/D free. Discreet. Satisfaction guaranteed. ☎2940

CAN'T HELP MYSELF
I'm very curious. I've acted on my curiosity only once. I don't know where to start. I'm perfectly normal on the outside, but a freak in the sheets. I find kink cool. I need to explore. I need a passable CD/TV/TS for a real relationship. Not just a hook up. Hook ups are cool. I have nothing against them, but I'm looking for a regular thing so I don't have to look too hard in the future. @ matthew772 ☎3089

QUICK STUDY
Attractive, 36 year old bi-curious male. Ready to explore cross-dressing, shopping, make-up sessions and more. Looking for discreet encounters, role playing, wardrobe sharing with 21-40 year old TV/TS. @ tvjunkie2 ☎3093

NEW TO SCENE
I'm a WM that is into anything that feels good. I'm always looking for good time, to try new things, and make new friends and always ready for anything. Lets have some fun. ☎3326

EDGE OF SEXUAL DESIRE?
Tall, lean, fit, open-mided, married white male who seeks erotic interaction with couples. I can be a passive observer or active participant. Age, race and looks are unimportant. ☎3324

I WORK OUT
I'm looking for a TG or TS. I'm 5'11', 165lbs, athletic, with brown hair and eyes, work out about 5 days a week. Not a lot of experience but open to a lot of things. ☎2699

UNCHARTED TERRITORY
Masculine, handsome, curious WM, 34, seeking a clean, sincere older male (50+) who wants to lay claim to some uncharted territory. Sound interesting? Want to be the first? Cleanliness, discretion, and safety assured and expected. Looks, size, race not important as your sincerity and drive to be the first. ☎3154

EXHIBITIONIST
Show off with regular guys in Boston, watch straight porn and strip outdoors. Hit the strip clubs and watch the ladies. ☎2953

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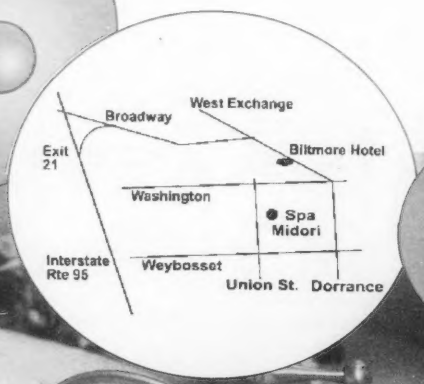

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Take exit 21 – Atwells Ave.
Turn Left on Atwells Ave.
Turn Left on Fountain St.
Turn Right on Dorrance St.
Turn Right on Westminster St.
Turn Right on Union St.

Directions from I-95 Northbound

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THE BOSTON PHOENIX

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BAR CRAWL

14 DRINKS IN 14 NIGHTS

Squeeze the last drop out of the summer with this handy guide

_BY WILL SPITZ

It went too fast. That's the line on your lips as you reinvade Boston in the fall. But while you're trying to re-acclimate yourself to the city, you might think about stretching the summer right up until the first class — or, in some cases, a little longer. Boston University, Boston College, and Tufts start classes on Tuesday, September 6; Northeastern and MIT start on Wednesday, September 7; and Harvard students have until September 20 (slackers). While you wait, here's a handy drinkers' guide to help you get the most out of your last two weeks of summer.

THURSDAY | AUGUST 25

Pitcher of Pabst Blue Ribbon at the Silhouette | $6.25

Start off with one of the best deals in town at one of the best dive bars in town. Rub elbows (or play pool or darts) with townies and Allston hipsters alike, all while gettin' a good buzz on for cheap and keeping the drunk munchies (via some tasty popcorn) at bay for free.
SILHOUETTE LOUNGE *200 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 617.254.9306.*

FRIDAY | AUGUST 26

Mojito at Middlesex | $8

We didn't understand why everyone at this SoHo-style lounge was drinking mojitos until we tried one. Minty and refreshing, this is the perfect drink for a balmy Friday night. Despite the fact that the 'Sex is always packed on the weekends, the busy bartenders take their time to muddle the fresh mint with a pestle, so the plant's aromatic oil permeates the cocktail.
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE *315 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.868.MSEX, www.middlesexlounge.com.*

SATURDAY | AUGUST 27

Scorpion bowl at Hong Kong | $13

A Harvard Square mainstay for more than 50 years, Hong Kong boasts three floors, delectable Chinese cuisine, and possibly the biggest and best scorpion bowl in town. Definitely enough to get two people sufficiently sloshed, HK's bowls are made with a secret combination of nine different alcohols (mostly rums) and pineapple and orange juice. They're fruity, sweet, and deceptively strong, just like a scorpion bowl should be.
HONG KONG RESTAURANT *1236 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.864.5311.*

SUNDAY | AUGUST 28

Bloody Mary at the White Horse | $5.50

We can't imagine a better way to cap off a long weekend of partying than relaxing with a nice Bloody Mary on a sunny Sunday afternoon. The White Horse makes one of the best in town — strong, spicy, and large — and when the weather's nice, the tavern's open front provides some welcome fresh air.
WHITE HORSE TAVERN *116 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 617.254.6633.*

MONDAY | AUGUST 29

Infused bourbon at City Bar | $10

The City Bar is a swanky spot inside the Lenox Hotel. With its comfy leather chairs, relaxed vibe, and great drinks, it's a perfect place to take a date. The infused bourbon — Maker's Mark with caramelized Turkish figs, Chinese cinnamon, and vanilla bean — is the most popular of chef Robert Fathman's three "Infusions Diabolique." While we're not sure what distinguishes Turkish figs and Chinese cinnamon from their American counterparts, we do know that they add a terrific touch to an already-tasty whiskey.
CITY BAR IN THE LENOX HOTEL *61 Exeter Street, Boston, 617.933.4800, www.citybarboston.com.*

JOEL VEAK

NECTAR of the River Gods: Dark and Stormy.

TUESDAY | AUGUST 30

Dark and Stormy at River Gods | $7.50

The funky ambiance at this little, slightly out-of-the-way bar makes it one of our favorites. DJs spin eclectic tunes, patrons sit on throne-style chairs, an old organ resides in the corner, and the armor of a medieval knight presides over the proceedings. We recommend the Dark and Stormy (ginger beer and Gosling's dark rum) — another palatable but potent drink.
RIVER GODS *125 River Street, Cambridge, 617.576.1881.*

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 31

Watermelon ale at Boston Beer Works | $4.50 (16 oz.); $5.25 (22 oz.)

As the city's largest and oldest brewery/restaurant, Beer Works offers some of the freshest, best-tasting brewskis around. While we recommend that you try as many of its award-winning beers as you can, the watermelon ale — a light and refreshing offering that's not overpoweringly fruity and is garnished with a slice of melon — is a perfect summer/early-fall beverage. It won't be available for much longer, so get there soon.
BOSTON BEER WORKS *61 Brookline Avenue, Allston, 617.536.BEER, beerworks.net.*

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 1

Espresso martini at Devlin's | $8

Forget the Red Bull and vodka: the classy way to kick off a thirsty Thursday is with this unique martini. Made with espresso,
Continued on p 4

Continued from p 3

Stoli Vanil, Bailey's, Kahlúa, Godiva chocolate, and a few espresso beans as garnish, it's a strong drink, both in terms of alcohol and caffeine.
DEVLIN'S BISTRO *332 Washington Street, Brighton, 617.779.8822, www.edevlins.com.*

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 2

Hercules Double IPA and a burger at Bukowski's

$5.25 for the beer; $1.69 for the burger (before 8 pm, Monday through Friday)

Talk about bang for your buck. While $5.25 for 16 ounces of beer sounds pricey, consider that Hercules is 9.1 percent alcohol by volume, and that you can't beat Bukowski's daily burger deal. The place itself is very cool — low lighting, loud music, and more varieties of beer than you can shake a stick at. And any bar named after the late LA writer can't suck.
BUKOWSKI'S TAVERN *1281 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, 617.497.7077.*

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 3

Tanqueray and tonic at ZuZu | $5.50

A classic drink at a neoteric place. Sandwiched between two rooms of the venerable Middle East (and owned by the same brothers), ZuZu offers up delicious Middle Eastern grub, an eclectic array of music seven nights a week, and consistently cool visual vittles by local artists. What better way to wash it all down?
ZUZU *474 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.864.EAST x 237, www.mideastclub.com/zuzu.*

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 4

B-Sidecar at the B-Side | $9

The B-Side's enormous cocktail menu is pretty daunting, so the sidecar is a good place to start. We can't pronounce half of the drink's ingredients — Domaine Labiette Castille Bas-Armagnac, Cointreau, grenadine, and lemon juice, with a sugar rim and an orange-wedge garnish — but boy, do we like it. If you get hungry, grab a free hard-boiled egg from the bar.
B-SIDE LOUNGE *92 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, 617.354.0766, www.bsidelounge.com.*

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 5

Miller High Life and a round of bowling at Kings

$4 for the beer; $9.50 per game (includes shoes) before 6 pm, and a $1 more after that

For many, the last night before classes. Although Kings is pretty fancy as far as bowling alleys go, there's nothing we crave more when we hear the sound of bowling balls cracking pins than the Champagne of bottled beers.
KINGS *10 Scotia Street, Boston, 617.266.BOWL, www.backbaykings.com.*

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 6

Guinness at Tír na nÓg | $4.50

One of the more "authentic" Irish pubs around, the nÓg is a small, cozy place in Union Square. For some reason, the Guinness just tastes better here, and at $4.50 for an imperial pint (that's 20 ounces for all you Yanks out there), you can't go wrong.
TÍR NA NÓG *366A Somerville Avenue, Somerville, 617.628.4300, www.thenog.com.*

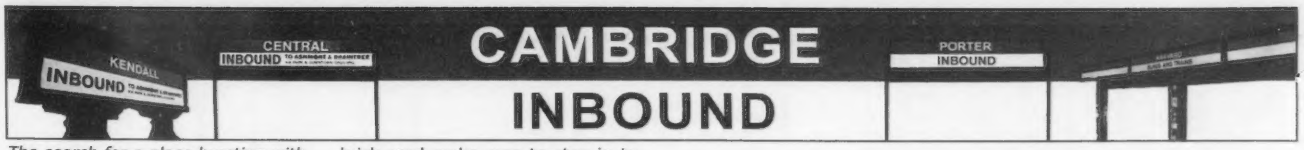
WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 7

'Poon pang at Sunset $3.95

You've been to your Wednesday classes, scanned the hundreds of courses, and picked the one that'll offer you the most enlightenment for the least work. Time to make your last decision in front of the 112 taps at Sunset. We recommend the "beertails" (like a cocktail, but with beer — get it?). Normally we'd tell you to try the Black n Tan, but since we had Guinness last night, we'll go with the 'Poon pang (Harpoon IPA and Champagne).
THE SUNSET GRILL & TAP *130 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 617.254.1331, www.allstonsfinest.com.* ⊙

JOEL VERAK

TONIGHT, WE BOWL The scorpion bowl at Harvard Square's Hong Kong is a social experience.



CAMBRIDGE INBOUND

The search for a place bursting with culture, diversity, and intrigue will end when you walk the streets of Cambridge. The atmosphere found here is a mix of 95,000 people from eighty-two different origins and speaking up to fifty different languages. Cambridge is the place to go to find various new stores paired with a comeback of aged ideas.

If you missed your morning helping of bacon and eggs, or your suffering from a early morning hangover... head to Zoë's for dinner and eat all the breakfast you want. It's a rare occurrence to step into a restaurant and be set back in time by about fifty years. Zoë's allows the hungry visitor to enter and enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner in a truly traditional environment. This fifties style diner serves delicious home cooking in a fun retro atmosphere. The chrome and vinyl mix with the music from the jukebox to create a blissful mood. The smell of syrupy pancakes and overstuffed omelets will make you desire breakfast morning, noon, and night. And in a place like Zoë's, you can fulfill your desires and eat French toast and home fries at all hours of the day.

There has not always been a place like Zoë's in the Cambridge area. Theopilos Vallas only recently opened this diner a few months ago. Aside from starving breakfast lovers, those craving an enormous salad or a colossal burger can also stop in for a taste. The huge menu includes Greek specialties, such as Mykonos Fair salad ($7.25), sandwiches, and hot dinners, alongside heaping stacks of pancakes ($5.95), with piles of home fries and eggs. Old-fashioned frappes and flavored sodas are among the list of beverages to aid in the retro mood. If you're looking for a place to bring you back to your mother's cooking, Zoë's is at the top of the list. Zoë's is open Monday-Saturday 7:30am-10pm, Sunday 8am-9pm, 1105 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138

When walking into the Dickson's Bro's. Hardware store on Brattle Street, it becomes clear that the best things in life sweeten with age. Dickson Bros. has been on location for 75 years in a large, historic building in Harvard Square. Dickson's is crammed full of tools, house wares, storage solutions, paints, and much more. The right tools for every project can be found here with the help of the knowledgeable staff. Quality products by Braun and Leather man are sold in order to ensure excellence and value.

After being voted the "Best of Boston", Dickson Bros. Co. has become a staple for college students in the area, when outfitting their dorm rooms and newly renovated apartments. Whether you are looking to complete an old project in your home or begin a brand new one, Dickson Bros. Co. is proud to offer their service by offering the right tools for the job. Anything that cannot be found in this enormous store can be special ordered and delivered free of charge within the Boston area. For the best products, the right tools, and a friendly staff, this Harvard Square hardware store is the place to go. Dickson Bros. Co. is open Mon - Fri: 8:30am - 6:00pm, Sat: 8:30am - 5:30pm, Sun: 10:00am - 4:00pm, 26 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

Harvard Square is one of the top hot spots to visit while in Cambridge. As you follow the red brick road make sure to stop in to Beadworks. This full service bead shop offers an extensive and ever-changing collection of beads, from vintage to contemporary.

And one-of-a-kind to basics, the array of beads is fantastic enough to inspire the most timid and novice crafters as well as the skilled beader. Beadworks also offers unique findings, tools, books, ready-made jewelry, accessories and beading kits. Store hours: 10am -8pm Monday - Thursday, 10am-9pm on Friday and Saturday and from Noon-7pm on Sunday, at 23 Church Street. For questions call 617-868-9777 or visit the website at www.beadworkscambridge.com

When outfitting your apartment or dorm room visit Audio Lab, the oldest Hi-Fi store in Harvard Square. Audio Lab has been selling & repairing audio since 1963. Audio Lab carries a large selection of new and used Hi-Fi equipment. Specializing in better built, better sounding and longer lasting products. Audio lab also carries a full line of accessories including, hard to find record player needles, phono cartridges, headphones, record cleaning products and everything you need to know when hooking your favorite system up. Audio lab is located on 36 JFK St. Cambridge, Ma. For questions or comments call 1-617-864-1144.

For the light-hearted student or the comic collector, the Million Year Picnic is a great shop to wander through. Million Year is also an in-store subscription service which offers a 20% discount on new comics to customers. They also offer a full selection of popular titles mixes with the independent comics to form a store with something for everyone. Stocked to the ceiling with what seems like every comic book ever created, this store has what you are looking for. Ranging from Acme Novelty Library, Optic Nerve, and Ghost world, to Love and Rockets and Sandman, the knowledgeable staff can help with it all. Visit Million Year Picnic in Harvard Square at 99 Mt Auburn Street or call 617-492-6763.

Bay State Fencers is a permanent facility in Inaman Square dedicated to the sport of fencing and is home to fencers of all ages and athletic abilities from the neighborhoods of Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville and beyond. Bay State Fencers is a full service fencing academy and club committed to supporting fencers as they work to achieve their individual athletic goals. Bay State Fencers also specializes in the mission of The Stage Combat Studio. The mission...to teach safe and well-performed stage violence to actors, performers and others interested in the art of stage combat. Bay State Fencers will be holding an open house on September 9th between 7:00 PMto 9:00 PM. Located at 561 Windsor Street, Somerville, MA. Visit www.baystatefencers.com or call 617-591-0101.

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The drummer joined the Air Force. Or the circus. Whichever.

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SPENDING MONEY

DECK OUT YOUR DIGS

You'll need more than that giant Bob Marley poster when you move in this fall. Here are 21 places to find furnishings for your room — one neighborhood at a time.

_BY NINA MACLAUGHLIN

You're here. You came back. The city's not the same without you. Don't let the locals convince you of the student scourge — that you're part of an infestation, like, say, carpenter ants. As much as they want to believe otherwise, from August to May, you're what makes this city hum. It's up to you to set the tune. So make yourself at home.

To combat the notion that you guys arrive in August and recklessly saturate the city, try not to think of yourself as visiting for nine-month stints. Go to class, go to parties, sprawl around on your respective campus greens, but get to know your neighborhood too. And you might as well start while running those just-moved-in errands.

Be it a cinder-block dorm room, a shared apartment, or a frat-house basement, it's easy to tack up a Bob Marley poster and call it a year. You may be in a rush to get settled, but wandering around the neighborhood will do wonders for your street cred. Below you'll find a rundown of the top student neighborhoods, along with the stores that'll help make your room a home and the city your own.

> It's Boston's quintessential student realm for its cheap(ish) rents, cheap eats, plentiful bars, and music. Whether you live in Allston or not, it's a primo place to find budget goods to fill up your pad.

ALLSTON

Rock city. Student ghetto. One of the most densely populated areas around, Allston is filled with Brazilians, Russians, Chinese, hipster chicks with slanting bangs, and quarterbacks with visors and bulging biceps. It's rowdy. It's loud. It's Boston's quintessential student realm for its cheap(ish) rents, cheap eats, plentiful bars, and music. Whether you live in Allston or not, it's a primo place to find budget goods to fill up your pad.

At the bottom of Harvard Avenue, which stretches through the heart of Allston and on into Brookline, you'll find **ACE MODEL HARDWARE** (*22 Harvard Avenue, Allston, 617.782.5131, www.acehardware.com*). It's not just for wheelbarrows and weed whackers (although it has those, too). Grab a blender, a frying pan, a clothes-drying rack (save your quarters for beer). For bigger items made of wood — a bunk bed, some bookshelves, a kitchen table and chairs, a made-to-order entertainment center — cross the street to **WOOD CRAFT FURNITURE** (*57 Harvard Avenue, Allston, 617.789.3933, www.woodcraftfurniture.net*), where you'll find more budget furniture, desks, couches, and papasan chairs. For comics, CDs, and books, check out **CHEAP CHIC** (*116 Harvard Avenue, Allston, 617.783.1227*), whose name just about captures the Allston aesthetic. Turn the corner and head downBrighton Avenue for **URBAN RENEWALS** (*122 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 617.783.8387*), "a family thrift center for the city dweller" (according to the sign); it's a warehouse full of cheap clothes, mismatched chairs, curtains, records, and books. The **YARD SALE** (*105 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 617.254.6626*) is aptly named (except that it's indoors) and crammed with all sorts of bric-a-brac bargains — from jazz posters to glass owls and kitschy kitchenware to a leopard-print teapot. Walk up Harvard into Brookline and find **ABORN TRUE VALUE** (*438 Harvard Avenue, Brookline, 617.739.9000, www.aborntruevalue.com*), which mixes the expected hardware goods with a collection of restored jukeboxes, antique radios, and phonographs.

KENMORE

At the intersection of Comm Ave and Beacon Street, this Boston University hub and infamous nightlife mecca has been undergoing a major face-lift over the past couple of years. The Kenmore T stop has been redesigned (the glass elevator should be working soon), and a few fancy-pants restaurants line the sidewalk, allowing people with neat hair and high heels to eat chocolate croissants. But the Square can still help you decorate your digs.

Even if you don't go to BU, you should check out the multi-floor **BU BOOKSTORE** (*600 Beacon Street, Boston, 617.267.8484, www.bu.bkstore.com*), which has all sorts of supplies, including posters, laundry bags, and those little plastic buckets for toting your shampoo and shaving cream to and from the showers. Across Comm Ave, feed (or discover) your vinyl habit at **NUGGETS** (*486 Comm Ave, Boston, 617.536.0679, www.nuggetsrecords.com*), which has survived Kenmore's gentrification. If you don't have turntables, hang the record sleeves on your wall. For that M.C. Escher print, head up Comm Ave to **MOSTLY POSTERS** (*1022 Comm Ave, Boston, 617.232.7335*).

Stroll back up Beacon and check out **BOSTON BICYCLE** (*842 Beacon Street, Boston, 617.236.0752*), because riding a bike is one of the best ways to familiarize yourself with the city's neighborhoods (as well as the character of our drivers).

Head back up through the Square to Newbury Street. The grittier end of the street intersects Mass Ave not too far from Kenmore, and there you'll find **URBAN OUTFITTERS** (*361 Newbury Street, 617.236.0088*), which carries more hipster stuff than you can shake a candlestick at. **NEWBURY COMICS** (*332 Newbury Street, 617.236.4930*) can also set you up with cool décor and ambient music before you head down toward the Common for pricey boutiques.

DAVIS SQUARE

From blue-collar to bohemian to the blast of gentrification that raised the rents and ousted the artists, Davis Square has

Continued on p 8

EMILY NELSON

NUGGETS Gold in them thar Kenmore.

EMILY NELSON

RESTORED Cheap Chic speaks for itself in Allston; McIntyre and Moore can outfit your lair with books roaring with intelligence.

Continued from p 7

changed — but part of its Slummerville roots remains. The dark and divey Sligo hunkers down across the street from the Joshua Tree; the Someday Café is a few blocks away from Starbucks; and upscale Indian at Diva is around the corner from ribs at Redbones. It's not exactly an exercise in extremes, but there are a bunch of different flavors in Davis Square.

PLUTO (*215 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.666.2005*), for example, with its yuppified mix of quirky cups and glasses, hanging lamps, mirrors, wall clocks, and wine racks, is about a two-minute walk from a quirk of a different color at the **GOODWILL STORE** (*230 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.628.3618, www.goodwillmass.org*), where you can dig through the giant carts outside or wander the racks indoors. Serendipity rewards the patient searcher. The **CANING SHOPPE** (*200 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.776.0100*) might be more your grandparents' speed, with classic Shaker and wicker furniture, but if you need a rocking chair or a high stool, check here. Local indie record-store chain **CD SPINS** (*235 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.666.8080, www.cdspins.com*) covers every possible music taste, and indie bookstore **MCINTYRE AND MOORE** (*255 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.629.4840, www.mcintyreandmoore.com*) specializes in hard-to-find, used, and out-of-print scholarly books.

HARVARD SQUARE

Home to the Mohawked, the tweedy, the blue-blood, the break dancer, Harvard reigns as the most famous Square in all of Greater Boston. Some of the landmarks remain: Out of Town News, Bartley's, Grendel's, the Brattle Theatre, the ancients at chessboards. But much of the counterculture that defined this Cambridge zone has been washed away in the rising tide of corporate homogenization.

Home to the Mohawked, the tweedy, the blue-blood, the break dancer, Harvard reigns as the most famous Square in all of Greater Boston.

The consignment shop Second Time Around, tucked next to Charlie's Kitchen on Eliot Street, deals mostly in vintage duds. **SECOND TIME AROUND LIVING** (*1 Brattle Square, Cambridge, 617.354.2096, www.secondtimearound.net*), across the street and around the corner, is a roomful of upscale used and antique furniture for those who favor the mahogany and upholstered look. **CRATE & BARREL** (*48 Brattle Street, Cambridge, 617.876.6300; 1045 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.547.3994, www.crateandbarrel.com*) has two outposts in the Harvard Square vicinity; the one on Brattle Street features all sorts of all-purpose housewares, and the other on Mass Ave stocks furniture exclusively. Not far from Crate & Barrel furniture is **BOWL & BOARD** (*1063 Mass Ave, Cambridge, 617.661.0350, www.bowlandboard.com*), a family-owned place with nooks, knobs, shower curtains, salt and pepper shakers, cutlery, rugs, and occasionally live acoustic music. Sooner or later something will bring you to the Middle East in Central Square, and right nearby there's an **ECONOMY HARDWARE** (*438 Mass Ave, 617.864.3300, www.economyhardware.com*), another brimming hardware shop to help you carve out a niche wherever you happen to live. ⊙

EMILY NELSON

RECYCLE Find upscale used furniture and clothes in Harvard Square.

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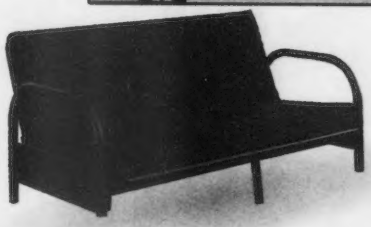

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It's All in Allston

If you're looking for a new area to check out this fall Allston Village offers a unique experience for shopping, services, meals, snacks, and cool places to hang out with friends and is accessible by both the B Green Line and the 57 and 66 buses.

Every Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights for the last 18 years the Sunset Grill and Tap at 130 Brighton Ave has hosted Midnight Madness with free appetizers from 12-1am. The offerings are constantly changing but regularly include quesadillas, boneless wings and roll-ups along with monthly beer specials: Sierra Nevada's Bigfoot and Fuller's London Porter for only 3 bucks a pint. If Midnight Madness doesn't fit your schedule try the Sunday Brunch and stay for a Pats game and sample the largest beer menu east of the Mississippi. Both promotions are also available at Sunset Cantina (916 Comm Ave).

Pho Pasteur (137 Brighton Ave) is still one of the best noodle houses in Boston and across the street you can enjoy authentic bubble tea from Taiwan at Infusions Tea Spa (110 Brighton Ave). Yi Soon Bakery at 112 Brighton Ave has green tea cakes or red bean rolls to complete your Asian feast.

If you need to check your email or surf the web while you're visiting Allston Village, Between Hours PC Café (154 Harvard Ave) and Net Station (1243 Comm Ave) offer inexpensive options for browsing (pay by the minute!) and gaming.

Allston has long been referred to as Rock City for its strong roots in punk, Indy and live rock music. If it's music you want, Allston Village boasts live jazz at the Wonder Bar (186 Harvard Ave), fresh DJs at The Kells 161 Brighton Ave, intimate rock shows including a secret Push Stars gig last fall at the Common Ground (85 Harvard Ave), and mainstays O'Briens for punk rock (3 Harvard Ave) and Great Scott (1222 Comm Ave) who host a raucous revival of Indy rock at The Plan on Saturday nights.

Great Scott also plays host to the third Rock City Prom Sunday 10/23 to benefit Allston Village Main Streets. Masked Lady Wrestling Le Gata Negra and Rock City Booty will be in the house so come check out our go-go dancers and nominate yourself for Rock City Prom King or Queen!

Allston Village Main Streets supports local business through support services and promotional activities. Many shops offer the free Allston Village 300 businesses by category. Rock the Village is a fall series that highlights the unique character and offerings of Allston through the prom, a style show and a rock show.

Whether you're shopping for your first apartment or a specific piece to complete a room Cheap Chic at 116 Harvard Ave carries a wide variety of frames, prints, end tables, chairs along with CDs, books, videos and more.

The Rock & Roll Library also on Harvard Ave continues to develop the RRL Music Archive™, the world's largest free music information archive, while promoting the use of popular music in education and is currently accepting fall intern applications at RockLibrary.com for Music Archivists, writers and other positions.

Regeneration Records created a new home for punk in Allston when they opened last year at 155 Harvard Ave and have provided hard to find LPs, books, posters and patches to music fans along with recently opening Allston's first tattoo shop in the record store last month.

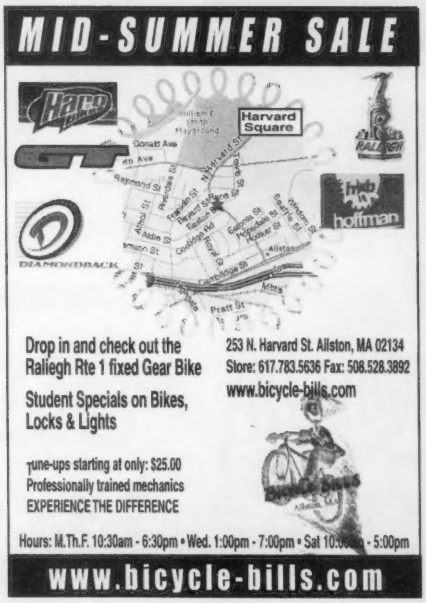
No visit is complete without stopping in to see Erin at New England Comics (131 Harvard Ave); she has info on everything from Batman Returns to the next Allston Village Main Streets event and lots of comics and collectibles too.

At the corner of Linden and Brighton (108 Brighton Ave) you'll find Spike's Junkyard Dogs which also offers a wide selection of chicken options in case you have friends who don't eat hot dogs. Later you can head to Herrell's at the corner of Brighton and Harvard Ave and treat yourself to our best local ice cream or try a "no-moo" option for the lactose intolerant.

If you're looking for a more relaxing experience, Body Mechanics at 387 Cambridge Street offers reasonable hot tub rentals and massage but if you're looking to spend money the village also offers Mr. Music's (128 Harvard Ave) renown guitar collection, the Pet Shop's (167 Harvard Ave) wide variety of exotic birds and other unusual pets and Marty's gourmet shop and wine selections are as extensive as they are tempting.

Whether it's for a day of shopping, a meal, live music or just to experience a new place Allston Village may be just what you're looking for.

Anne Fitzpatrick can be reached at fitz@rocklibrary.com
Rock & Roll Library



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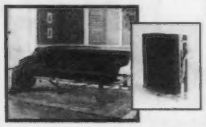

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GIRL ON GIRLS

LADIES' NIGHTS

Five spots for girls to meet girls

_BY MICAH BELLIEU

It wasn't long ago that Boston was practically void of places to meet lesbians. The choices in those days? Analyze a sideways glance on the street, or date your ex's ex. Now, however, I can plan a weeklong syllabus around meeting ladies.

Sunday through Wednesday I will study for the GRE at **DIESEL CAFÉ** (*257 Elm Street, Somerville, 617.629.8717, www.diesel-cafe.com*). Why cram in a library when you can be distracted quite successfully by cute girls wandering in to play pool, grab coffee and a sandwich, or even better, other girls who came to be distracted? It's quite easy to approach a girl at Diesel: inquire which coffee drink is good, have an "accidental" (but gentle) run-in with your pool cue, or choose the assertive route and lure a certain someone into the photo booth.

KELLY DAVIDSON

FUELING AROUND Happiness at Diesel.

After days of math problems — and a permanent crease between my brows — I raise my hands in worship to the god that is Thursday. Oh, the choices Thursday holds! I will explore my inner drag king and head to **"QUEERAOKE"** (*Midway Café, 3496 Washington Street, Jamaica Plain, 617.524.9038, www.dykenight.com*) to dance and "sing." Now, don't freak out; you don't have to dress up, but really, why would you not? There's a fertile supply of wigs, blow-up guitars, and costumes, which can only help if your flirting falls short of worthiness.

Too shy to belt out "Purple Rain" in front of strangers? I choose the ass-shaking door number two: **"TRIBE"** (*Club Felt Boston, 533 Washington Street, Boston, 617.350.5555, www.tribenightclub.com*), where you can blend into the swaying mass that is a butch-meets-femme heaven. For $5, all your ailments — whether you call them algebra or girl troubles — will fall from your shoulders and onto the floor with a satisfying thud.

By the time Friday comes around, I say to hell with it. I've already forgotten everything I thought I learned throughout the week. So, let's mix up the week with **"DYKE NIGHT GOES RETRO"** (*Toast, 70 Union Square, Somerville, 617.623.9211, www.dykenight.com*). Make sure you've watched plenty of VH1 Classics before you come, because you'll be hearing all the goodies from the '70s, '80s, and '90s. There's a $5 cover, and for the vast age range that you encounter, it's worth every penny.

Pickings are slim for Saturday nights since **"CLUB HOLLYWOOD"** (*Buzz, 67 Stuart Street, Boston, 617.267.8969, www.shuttavac.com*) switched over to a guys' night. Bring $10, your ID, and an open mind, and you might be able to have a sweaty night at the heart-pounding, house-bumping, sex-sprawling two-story location.

After that, I'm off to Diesel on Sunday, where studying is a little less painful, and thus begins another week. I can't wait till Thursday. ◉

GUY ON GUYS

GUY WATCH

Seven spots for guys to meet guys

_BY KURT MALEC

Finding *the* guy in Boston may be hard, but finding *a* guy certainly isn't. Like all gay men, I am drawn to the thumping beats of club music, the wailing of dance divas, and the taste of a stiff (ahem) drink. Over the past five years in Boston, the Lansdowne Street clubs have never let me down. Thursday nights at **EMBASSY** (*36 Lansdowne Street, 617.536.2100, www.embassymodern.com*) continue this tradition and offer a new breed of music — gay hip-hop. Thumping bass beats and Janet Jackson give us a night definitely more gay than thug. And when the crème de la crème of drag queens show up in their sequined best, you know the night is gonna be good. Sister Clubs **AVALON** (*15 Lansdowne Street, 617.262.2437, www.avalonboston.com*) and **AXIS** (*13 Lansdowne Street, 617.262.2437*) both offer gay nights on Sunday and Monday, respectively (note: it is a gay sin to miss Axis's drag show).

> While the club scene is a great place for hard bodies and eye candy, I don't always want first dates to take place later that same night in a bathroom stall.

While the club scene is a great place for hard bodies and eye candy, I don't always want first dates to take place later that same night in a bathroom stall. Therefore, I find it best to look beyond the clubs for guys known as "boyfriend" material. **THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS** and **THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY** courtyard are great places to find the intellectual type. If you don't feel like putting on an air of intellectualism to approach those studying studs, I recommend bookstores like **TRIDENT BOOK SELLERS** (*338 Newbury Street, 617.267.8688, www.tridentbookscafe.com*). You'll find scenesters, hipsters, and homosexuals reading, drinking, and lounging in the café. And let's face it, it is a lot easier to make small talk with someone who is reading Paris Hilton's latest than someone contemplating a Renoir.

But what if you don't want a shirtless circuit boy or a bookworm? The answer lies at the mecca of the Boston gay scene. The **CLUB CAFÉ** (*209 Columbus Avenue, 617.536.0966, www.clubcafe.com*) sits on the edge of Back Bay and the South End, acting as a sort of portal into the gay community. With dancing in back, dining up front, and lounging boys in the bar, you have your pick of any type of guy you could imagine — and they're all gay! ◉

GIRL ON GUYS

GUY HUNTING

A gal gives her eight best offbeat spots to find a date

_BY SARAH GREEN

You've done the frat-house pubs of Faneuil Hall, the too-cool-for-school bars of Newbury Street, and the hipster dives along the B Line. You know Boston's bar scene is swarming with bachelors. But barhopping is hardly a step above posting on Craig's List. Sure, no one's sending you penis pictures with that mojito, but it's still a model that supports quantity over quality. How do you meet superior gentlemen without unnecessarily subjecting yourself to their simian alter egos?

If you've got rhythm and music, and just need "my man" to complete the trifecta, go for **"FRIDAY NIGHT SALSA"** at the Greek Club in Central Square (*second-floor ballroom, 288 Green Street, Cambridge, www.havanaclubsalsa.com*). The lesson starts at 8:30 pm, the dance party at 10:30. The cover is $12 and includes both lessons and shindig — the event is 21-plus, or 18-plus with a college ID. Even if you have two left feet, there are plenty of nice guys who'll ask if it's your first time and show you the ropes. Don't ask how I know this.

> Even if you have two left feet, there are plenty of nice guys at the Greek Club who'll ask if it's your first time and show you the ropes. Don't ask how I know this.

For the songbirds, sharing a tipsy rendition of "Sweet Caroline" with a stranger is often better than any first date. Restaurant and bar **JACOB WIRTH** (*31-37 Stuart Street, Boston, www.jacobwirth.com*) offers a rousing Friday-night piano sing-along. In case you need proper fortification before launching into "Octopus's Garden," Jake Wirth offers hearty Teutonic fare and dozens of beers on tap.

Take advantage of the last few sparkling summer weekends and head north to Cape Ann and **SINGING BEACH** in Manchester-by-the-Sea (*take the Commuter Rail, Rockport Line, to Manchester from North Station; www.manchesterma.com*). I would recommend a beach closer to Boston if I could (the trip's almost an hour), but the last time I went swimming somewhere I could get to on the T, I got an inexplicable infection in a very private place. But Singing Beach is miles away from sketchy. It's got white sands, big boulders, little triangular sailboats on the horizon ... and cute preppies playing football in the surf.

Everyone has to run errands from time to time, but there's no law against simultaneous flirting. Home Depot has recently been revealed as a man-meeting hot spot for the middle-aged, middle-class female. **WHOLE FOODS** is our younger, urban crowd's equivalent (*check www.wholefoodsmarket.com for a location in your area*). The men there are obviously health-conscious, and in reasonable shape. There you are, both reaching for the quinoa at the same moment, when your hands brush ... your eyes meet.... I can see the whole free-range romance unfolding now.

Since your friends' friends already come prescreened, get a group together and start an open-invite film club. Unlike with a book club, you don't have to prepare in advance or watch Oprah. **THE KENDALL SQUARE CINEMA** (*1 Kendall Square, Cambridge, www.landmarktheatres.com*) always picks offbeat movies guaranteed to spark conversation.

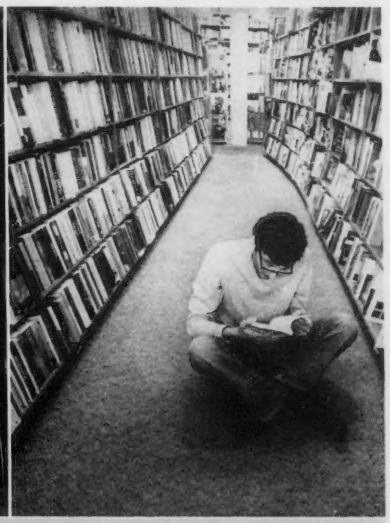
For you bookish types offended by the above Oprah quip, I suggest browsing the **HARVARD BOOK STORE** (*1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge, www.harvard.com*) to meet the sort of lovable Ivy League nerds who strike up impromptu conversations comparing Walter Benjamin and Roland Barthes in the Cultural and Critical Theory aisle. Rowr.

It's tempting to try meeting guys at the gym, but you don't want to end up all bespandexed and loitering by the free weights in a floozy-like manner. Try rock climbing instead. At the **METROROCK GYM** (*69 Norman Street, Everett, www.metrorock.com*), newbies are welcome, people are friendly, and the gender ratio is favorable.

But, alas, I will end with a bar.

While admittedly a hipster dive on the B Line, **OUR HOUSE WEST** (*1277 Comm Ave, Allston*) at least spices things up with an eclectic jukebox selection, the Red Sox always on the telly, and a veritable wish list of board games. What better way to spark romance than by whupping your future boyfriend in '90s Trivial Pursuit? ◉

If you find luck at any of these places, send an e-mail to hookup@phx.com.



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GUY ON GIRLS

WHERE THE GIRLS ARE

A guy gives his eight best spots to find a lady

BY ROYCROFT WALSH

Remember the early days of the college party when you stood elbow to elbow in someone's dirty Allston living room while warm beer was splashed on your Tevas? Remember how you could tolerate the blond chick drinking twice her weight in alcohol and puking all over creation, simply because she had a big rack? Times have changed. You've grown weary of waking up on a stranger's bong-water-soaked couch, and that blonde took a semester off to concentrate on her AA meetings. The occasional keg party is still okay, but you're going to need more arrows in your quiver to meet the right lady in Boston.

Grab a group of guys and head over to **KINGS** (*10 Scotia Street, www.backbaykings.com*), where you can show off your skills in a game of pool or don a pair of bowling shoes and show those pins who's boss. It's a casual environment, so feel free to ask the gals in the next lane if they're up for a "girls versus guys" match. Losing team buys a round. Next thing you know, you're getting digits.

> If you have a pooch, bring it to the Common and watch the women flock around you. Or borrow a friend's baby. That'll work as well. If you cannot find either of those items, bring your friends and a frisbee.

After a late night of partying, wake up on a Saturday and head over to **BOSTON COMMON** (*bounded by Tremont, Beacon, Charles, and Boylston Streets, www.cityofboston.gov*) for a relaxing afternoon. If you have a pooch, bring it along and watch the women flock around you. Or borrow a friend's baby. That'll work as well. If you cannot find either of those items, bring your friends and a frisbee. When you see a saucy coed sunbathing on the sidelines, invite her to play. Afterward, treat her to a lemonade from one of the many park vendors. (Bring cash! There's nothing worse than a dude looking for an ATM when a lady is waiting.)

Meeting a woman at a bookstore is cliché, but it works. Browse the books and the educated beauties at **BROOKLINE BOOKSMITH** (*279 Harvard Street, Brookline, www.brooklinebooksmith.com*). The store has a wide selection of literature, a bargain basement, and weekly author readings. Resist the urge to go right to the Sexuality section and leaf through the *Kama Sutra* while making eyes at passers-by.

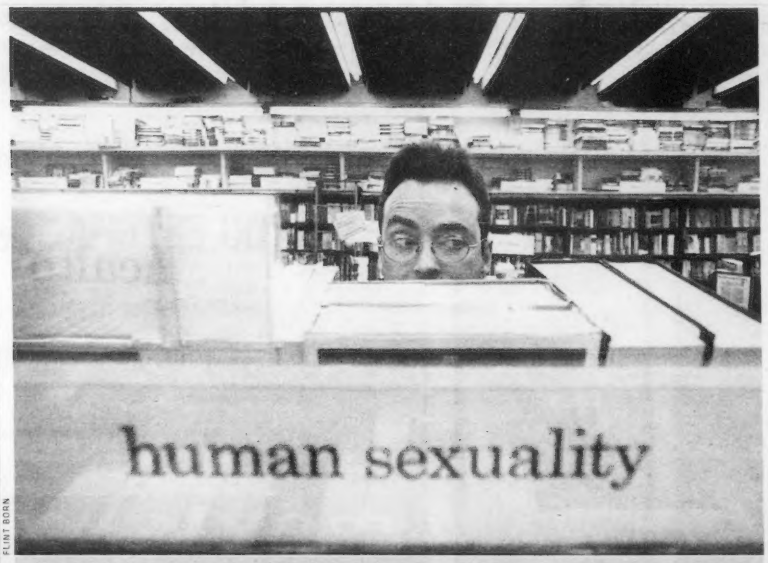
With the knowledge you've soaked up at the independent bookseller, head over to the **RED HAT** (*9 Bowdoin Street, 617.523.2175*) for "Monday Night Trivia." The upper level is typically packed with both guys and gals testing their intelligence, eating 10-cent chicken wings, and enjoying the mudslides. Competition is stiff in this city. If you find yourself losing, be the better man and buy the hot mama — the one who got the T.S. Eliot question right — a drink.

Instead of wasting your time with a woman who rolls her eyes at your iPod playlist, flirt with the one holding season three of *Family Guy* at **VIRGIN MEGASTORE** (*360 Newbury Street, www.virginmegamagazine.com*). Run upstairs to the Virgin Café with your new friend and discuss the finer points of *Quagmire* over croissants. Walk a block down to **NEWBURY COMICS** (*332 Newbury Street, www.newburycomics.com*) and pick up an UglyDoll for your new gal.

Typically you'd need a date before heading to the movies, but the **COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE** (*290 Harvard Street, Brookline, www.coolidge.org*) offers specialty Midnite Matinees where singles can meet. For under nine bucks, you can enjoy a late night of *anime*. And if you play your Pokémon cards right, you'll leave with the cute chick sporting the Hello Kitty backpack.

THE TRIBE, a group of talented Boston theater artists, puts on a creative and hilarious improv show on Thursday and Friday nights (*Buzz/Europa, 67 Stuart Steet, www.tribeboston.com*). With a gin and tonic in your hand, share a laugh with a sexy stranger. After the show, hit the many trendy clubs and restaurants that call the Theater District home.

There you go: eight perfectly good spots to meet your next fling. If none of these helps, there's always magazines. ⊙



FLINT BORN

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Tom: Yes. If she's hot. I've done it under the influence of alcohol and I've had some success. *(TRANSLATION: I have social anxiety which leads me to consume alcohol in order to achieve an altered state of mind in which anyone looks attractive and I am bold and confident.)*

Christine: Maybe. If you have an obvious and almost tangible, comic, tantric love connection across the room. *(TRANSLATION: I am also insecure and spend far too much time in New Age shops, buying books from presses that go under after two months of business.)*

Read the full Tom & Christine column in Phoenix People

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ROOMMATES

MIS-GUIDED

How my college-survival book ruined my life

_BY SETH REISS | ILLUSTRATION BY PRANKDESIGN.COM

Your initial clothing selection should get you from move-in day to your first trip home.... If you go to college in the northeast, you may want some sweaters but you can probably leave the winter coat ...
— *The Everything College Survival Book*, by Michael S. Malone, Chapter 4, "So Much Stuff, So Little Space"

Having grown up in Pittsburgh, I prepared for the Boston cold by reading Jack London's *Call of the Wild* and screening the film *Alive*. I would need sweaters. Lots of them. So, I packed all my favorite sweaters, planning on replacing them with even heavier favorite sweaters after Thanksgiving. I left my Charlotte Hornets Starter jacket at home.I was shocked when, for two straight weeks, the temperature in Boston crept above 90 degrees.

I was most uncomfortable, my only solace being that it was 30 degrees Celsius. My floor-mates made fun of my wardrobe, but my roommate, Charles, was supportive. We "clicked" because we both liked television and laughing at things. He gave me the nickname "Hotness," and on special occasions I would call him Chas.

Once in a while I would borrow a T-shirt from Charles, and, to show that I wasn't taking advantage of him, I would wear it over my sweater. He was an excellent roommate, and every night before I went to sleep, I thanked God for Charles. I then turned to Charles while he slept and thanked him for God. Everything was perfect until, during a cold front, an unprepared Charles borrowed my favorite sweater ...

If you borrow clothing from a friend, it is appropriate to wash the clothing before returning it. Items such as sweaters may not need to be washed unless they have acquired a stain or smell of smoke. If you cause damage that cannot be easily repaired, you should replace the garment.
— Chapter 9, "Clean Room, Clear Mind"

Sethman25: Charles we have to talk.
PrinzCharles: eeya, dude.
PrinzCharles: Sorry. What's up?
Sethman25: Charles, don't play coy with me. I saw my sweater.
PrinzCharles: Which one? You have so many.
Sethman25: The one you borrowed from me during the cold front. It reeks of smoke. Were you smoking, Charles? It also has a stain on it. It's my FAVORITE sweater. You didn't even make an attempt at washing it before returning it, did you? DID YOU, CHARLES?!?
PrinzCharles: I'll buy you a new one when stores start selling winter clothes.
Sethman25: THAT GARMENT WAS IRREPLACEABLE!!!

I turned from my computer, glared at Charles's back and thought about shooting him with my gun. After not receiving an instant message for several moments, Charles turned to me. "Listen," Charles said, "I'm sorry. I should have told you."

"I'm sorry, too," I replied. "I've already put your name in for a roommate transfer. There was no space for you in another dorm, so you have to go to another college. Goodbye, Charles. "

If you're unable to remove a stain, don't immediately get rid of the item. You can still use it for exercise, a painting class, or for just hanging out in your room.
— Chapter 9, "Clean Room, Clear Mind"

I had never thought of resorting to such measures as taking a painting class, but, with such a hideous stain (it had taken the shape of what a tarantula would look like if it were an angry person), there was really nowhere else to turn. Sure, I had tried wearing the sweater in my dorm room for nightly hangout sessions with friends, but all focus and conversation — as expected — quickly turned to the stain. "How did that happen?" One person would ask. "Looks like spaghetti sauce," another would mutter in disgust. "What the hell is that!? Take that the frickin' thing off," said another. If Charles had been there, he would have been more supportive, maybe staining an article of his clothing on purpose so I wouldn't have felt so awkward. I missed him.

Three days later I was in a painting class, and it was a liberating experience. It turned out I specialized in landscapes. I would paint grand mountains and beautiful evergreens and label the sun "God." The sweater was working perfectly, allowing my arms to sweep and stroke freely. It wasn't until an exercise called a "free paint," in which we closed our eyes and painted for five minutes what we were really feeling, that I realized painting was more than just a stained sweater looking to be used. During the free paint, Mary painted a lobster. John painted mail that had insufficient postage. I painted an exact replica of Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze's *George Washington Crossing the Delaware*, only Charles was George Washington, and he was wearing my sweater.

POSTSCRIPT

Your roommate will definitely be a big part of your college life, but he might also become a groomsman in your wedding, a godparent to your child, or a lifelong travel partner.
— Chapter 8, "Roommates"

Years later, I decided to call Charles. I told him I was getting married in Las Vegas (a lie), and that I wanted to reconcile our differences so that he could be my best man. I had no one else (a truth). He was hesitant at first, but I offered him godparent status to my first-born child. Charles couldn't resist.

On the plane ride over, I turned to Charles: "You remember my sweater?" I asked, partly joking, but mostly serious. The sweater, along with six others, was packed in my suitcase because I read that Las Vegas can get very cold at night. "Oh, that old thing," he said, and began to laugh. "Yeah, that old thing," I answered, and began laughing but had no clue what was so funny. I was looking for an apology.

"How could I forget?" he answered.

No apology. My worst fear had come true: we would never be lifelong travel partners. ⊙

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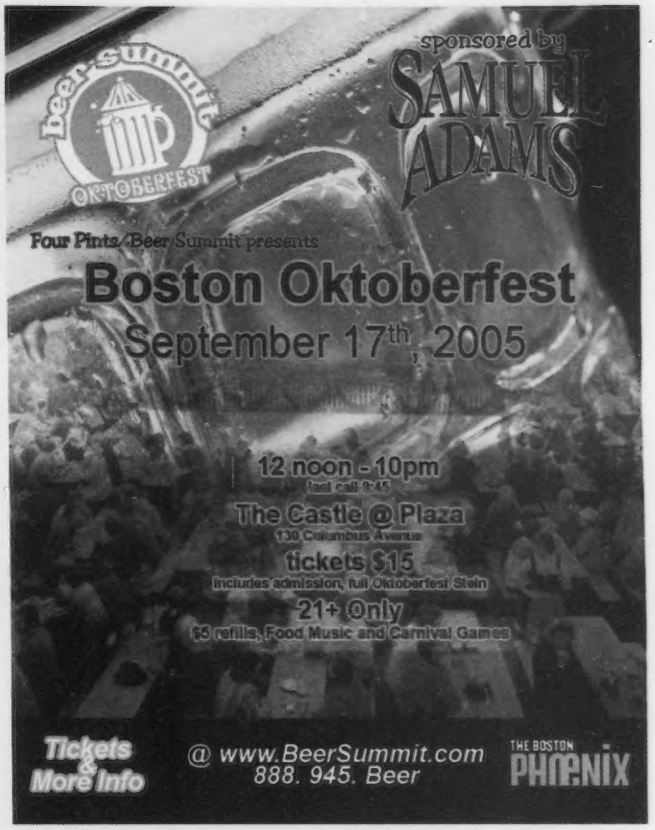

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- J.R. (edatereview.com)

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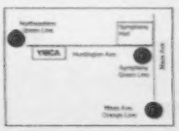

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ADVERTORIAL

The Open House:

The Most Important Class You Will Ever Attend

Transcripts aside, finding the best graduate school isn't as easy as walking into the guidance office.
Think back to the days of yellow lockers, manila-folder-colored hallways, and the all too familiar guidance office that contained a museum of metal filing cabinets with just about everything you could possibly want to know about furthering your education. Now that you've gotten your undergraduate degree, and are starting over again as a graduate student, it's likely that you have many new questions.
When it comes to choosing a graduate school, the most important step you can take is attending an Open House. It is one of the most interactive and informative ways for you to find a school that meets your needs.

On the day of the Open House, you will start off with a group information session in the Admissions Office. The information session, tailored to the program of your choice and mainly question and answer, will help you gain insight into such things as the best way to apply to the program, program requirements, post-graduate career possibilities, and funding your education through financial aid, student loans, or a tuition reimbursement program.

Next, you will likely be invited to take a tour of the campus. The tour could be self-guided or led by a current student who can answer any questions that you have along the way. This is a great way for you to get a sense of the atmosphere on campus and to consider how you might feel if you were a student at the school. Browsing the pictures on a school's web site can't provide you with the kind of information that experiencing the surroundings for yourself can.

After you take the tour, you might have the opportunity to attend a class in the program that you're interested in pursuing. You will be able to evaluate the school's faculty, the caliber of its students, and get a sneak preview of what to expect in the classroom. Experiencing a class as an observer can also relieve some of the anxiety you may be feeling about going back to school, especially if you have been out of the academic setting for a while and are nervous about returning to the classroom.

Trust your gut – literally! Check out the cafeteria or dining hall and have a meal. Not only will you get to test the quality and diversity of the food offerings, you will also be able to observe the dynamics of current students mixing with faculty and staff. You may also strike up a conversation with someone who can provide you with the inside track about things such as the social scene, clubs and organizations for graduate students, how available the faculty really is, and how cutthroat the competition may be.
The word 'dormitory' may cause your stomach to regret the meal you just had at the cafeteria, as you flash back to your freshman year in college; but when considering graduate school, it may be important to you that you have the option to live on campus. Some schools offer apartment style housing specifically for graduate students or married students, along with traditional dormitories where you might be mixed in with undergraduates. You will be able to ask questions about the housing possibilities available to you, and potentially tour or arrange to stay at one of the facilities.

You might also consider personalizing your visit by meeting with a member of the staff – a professor in your chosen program, a Dean of Students, or a Graduate Admissions Officer. All of these people will provide you with more information, and might be able to tip the scales in your favor if you make a good impression.

Not able to attend an Open House in person? Some schools now have virtual campus tours and live web cams on their Internet sites, so that potential students can catch a glimpse into "everyday life" on campus from anywhere in the world. While certainly less informative than if you were on campus in person, these portals provide you with more actual data about the school than the photos and snappy testimonials from students that grace most school web sites.

Open Houses generally take place at least four times a year: twice in the fall and twice in the spring, depending on the school and the popularity of the particular program. Some may require a reservation prior to attendance, or a small fee. Contact the school in which you're interested for more details. Deciding to attend an Open House could be one of the most important decisions you make when choosing a graduate school – don't let the opportunity pass you by.

Written by Carley Lee

GREATER BOSTON

THE ART INSTITUTE OF BOSTON AT LESLEY UNIVERSITY, 700 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02215, (617) 585-6600 or (800) 773-0494.
http://www.aiboston.edu
Call for open house information.

BENTLEY COLLEGE, 175 Forest St., Waltham, MA 02452, (781) 891-2000.
http://ecampus.bentley.edu/
Open House: October 2, 2005, 10a.m.

BOSTON CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION, 5 Comm Ave, Boston, MA 02116, (617) 267-4430; fax (617) 247-3606.
http://www.bcae.org
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BOSTON UNIVERSITY, 755 Comm Ave, Room 105, Boston, MA 02215, (617) 353-6000.
http://www.bu.edu/met
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BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, Rabb School of Continuing Studies, Division of Graduate and Professional Studies, Box 549110, Waltham, MA 02454, (781) 736-8787; or e-mail conted@brandeis.edu.
http://www.brandeis.edu/continuing
Open House September 7, 2005 6-8p.m.

CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138, or mail to P.O. Box 9113, Cambridge, MA 02238, (617) 547-6789 or fax (617) 497-7532, or (617) 876-2755.
http://www.ccae.org
Call for open house information.

CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE, 1000 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138, (800) 877-4723.
http://www.cambridgecollege.edu/
Open house August 22, 2005 6-8p.m.

EMERSON COLLEGE, Division of Continuing Education, (mailing address) 120 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116, (617) 824-8280 or fax (617) 824-8158. http://www.emerson.edu/ce
Call to make an advisor appointment.

FISHER COLLEGE, Division of Continuing Education, 118 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02116, (617) 536-4647 or (617) 236-8867. In addition to its Boston campus, Fisher College offers courses in Attleboro Falls (508-699-6200), Fall River (508-675-0171), Fitchburg (978-342-8919), Framingham (508-820-0009), Hyannis (508-771-6610), Malden (781-321-0055), Marlborough (508-481-3114), New Bedford (508-998-3254), Plymouth (508-746-7202), and Taunton (508-823-8583).
http://www.fisher.edu
Open house November 17, 2005, 4:30

HARVARD UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SCHOOL, 51 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138, (617) 495-4024.
http://www.dce.harvard.edu/extension/
Open house August 24, 2005, September 12, 2005, 5:30p.m.

LESLEY UNIVERSITY, Graduate and Adult Baccalaureate Programs, 29 Everett St., Cambridge, MA 02138, (617) 349-8300. Lesley also offers courses and programs in locations throughout New England; call for information. Weekend options in many programs; call for information.
http://www.lesley.edu
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MASSACHUSETTS BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley Hills, MA 02481; Framingham campus: 19 Flagg Dr., Framingham, MA 01702, (781) 239-3000; fax (781) 239-1047; e-mail: mbccinfo@mbcc.mass.edu.
http://www.mbcc.mass.edu
Call to make advisor appointment.

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART, Department of Graduate and Continuing Studies, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115, (617) 879-7200.
http://www.massart.edu.
Stop by the campus in person for more information.

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, City Campus: 33 Kearney Sq., Lowell, MA 01852; Bedford campus: 591 Springs Rd., Bedford, MA 01730, (781) 280-3200; Lowell office, (978) 656-[illegible].
http://www.middlesex.mass.edu
Open house August 25, 2005, 4p.m.

THE NEW ENGLAND INSTITUTE OF ART, 10 Brookline Place West, Brookline, MA 02445, (617) 739-1700, (800) 903-4425; fax (617) 582-4500; e-mail neia_admissions@aii.edu.
http://www.neia.aii.edu
Open house October 22, 2005 10a.m. and 1p.m.

NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY, 537 Comm Ave, Boston, MA 02215, (617) 437-1868.
http://www.nesop.com
Call to make an appointment and for more information.

NORTH BENNET STREET SCHOOL, 39 North Bennet St., Boston, MA 02113, (617) 227-0155 ext. 102, or e-mail Janet Collins at workshops@nbss.org.
http://www.nbss.org
Open house November 4 and 5, 2005, 10a.m.-2p.m.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, University College, 180 Ryder Hall, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115,
(617) 373-2400. http://www.ace.neu.edu
Open house August 23/25 12-2p.m. & 5-7p.m.

REGIS COLLEGE, Graduate and Continuing Studies, 235 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02493, (781)768-7444, e-mail admission@regiscollege.edu.
http://www.regiscollege.edu
Call for more information

SCHOOL OF THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 230 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115, (617) 267-1219 or e-mail coned@smfa.edu. http://www.smfa.edu
Call for more information.

SIMMONS COLLEGE, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115, (617) 521-2000. http://www.simmons.edu
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SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY, 8 Ashburton Pl., Boston, MA 02108, (617) 573-8302. http://www.suffolk.edu
Open house August 23/September 29, 2005 6-7:30p.m.

TUFTS UNIVERSITY, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, 108 Packard Ave., Medford, MA 02155, (617) 627-3395; fax (617) 627-3016.
http://ase.tufts.edu/gradstudy/
Call for open house information.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON, Division of Corporate, Continuing, and Distance Education, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393, (617) 287-7900; fax (617) 287-7922.
http://www.ccde.umb.edu
Open house October 22, 2005.

WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Professional and Continuing Studies, 550 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115, (617) 989-4300 or (800) 323-9481; e-mail dpcs@wit.edu.
http://www.wit.edu/dpcs
Open house August 24, 2005, 5:30-7p.m.

WHEELOCK COLLEGE, 200 The Riverway, Boston, MA 02215, (617) 879-2000.
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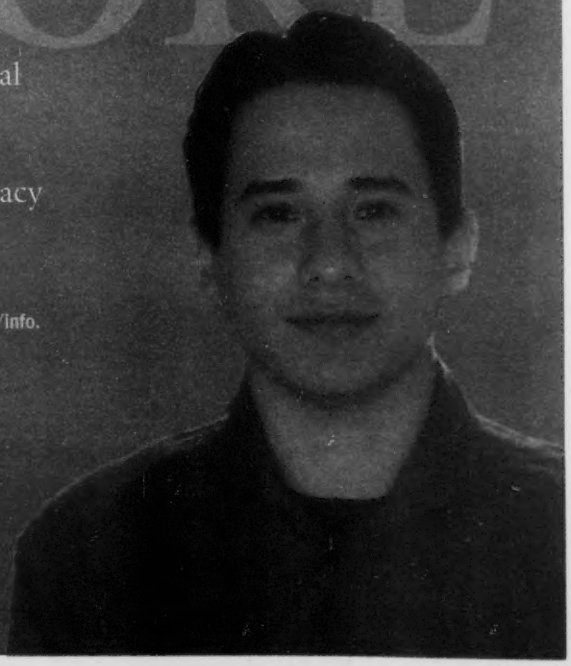

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Mario Garcia, ALB candidate

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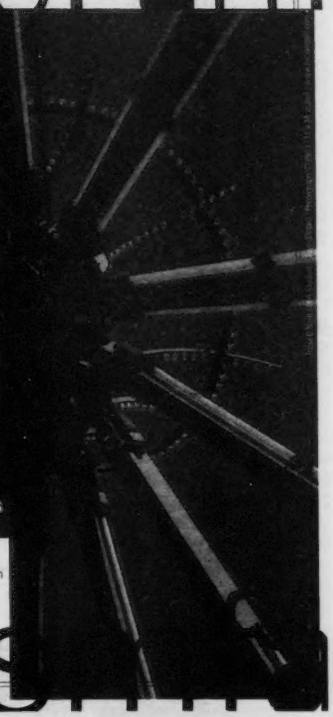

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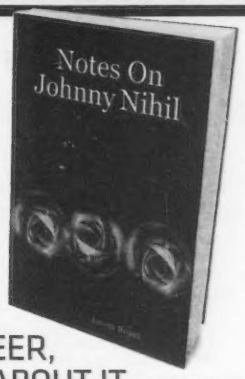


PERSONA NON GRATA

PUNK ROCK, MENTAL BREAKDOWNS, BUCKETLOADS OF BEER, AND HOW A MAN NAMED JIMMY REJECT LIVED TO WRITE ABOUT IT

_BY MIKE MILIARD

FANIT SARAFINI

JESUS CHRIST POSE "If you need a messiah, be your own," says Jimmy Reject.

RAT SCABIES. CHEETAH CHROME. SPIT STIX. JOHNNY THUNDERS. BILLY ZOOM. IN THE PANTHEON OF PUNK-ROCK MONIKERS, THERE ARE SOME DOOZIES. BUT IF THE NAME JIMMY REJECT LACKS A CERTAIN TRASHY grandeur, it's still simple, to the point, and its four syllables pack a nifty rhythmic punch. It's also appropriate, in its way.

James Harrington, a/k/a Jimmy Reject, is 34. He lives in Marshfield with help from Section 8 housing subsidies. He used to live in Quincy, but moved because he decided there were too many people there. He works in an ice-cream shop by day and gets home by five or so. Once upon a time, he was drummer for almost-legendary Boston glam punks the Dimestore Haloes, the best band you never heard in your life. But they broke up two years ago.

These days, Jimmy Reject writes. He channels his omnivorous musical appetites and encyclopedic knowledge into scads of voluminous reviews for fanzines and Web mags. He pours his soul into unflinchingly honest journal entries on sites like LiveJournal and MySpace. And he writes books. In 2003 Harrington self-published *The Enemy's Within*, a scarifying memoir of mental damage and musical debauch, pennedunder his *nom de punk*. Last month, he put out his first novel, *Notes on Johnny Nihil* — a book he describes as "a cross betweenan old John Hughes flick, a [William S.]Burroughs novel, and Nietzsche's *Thus Spake Zarathustra*."

While neither tome will be winning the National Book Award any time soon, all this writing does seem to be helping Harrington process a life that's been marked by alcoholism, mental illness, chronic sexual frustration, and a general feeling of unease in the world of straight society. Jimmy Reject picked his nickname for a reason. But as he slowly slays his "lysergically complex cache of medicated mental demons," he's getting himself sorted. He is, he writes, "just a guy like everyone else, trying to get his shit together and make his way in the world." If he can, he wouldn't mind helping other rejects do the same.

Continued on p 28

Continued from p 27

SUBMISSION

The sub shop in Quincy is nearly empty, as is the table in front of us. No food has been ordered, and the guys behind the counter eye us suspiciously. If Harrington notices this, he doesn't care. He wears a ripped shirt with a crumpled pack of Basics in the front pocket, a Teenage Head T-shirt underneath. His red hair is mussed. His red whiskers are patchy. His face is puffy, splotched with a couple of red spots. In a voice that sounds a little like Ralph Nader, a little like Ralph Malph, he discusses his life so far.

He talks first about his grandfathers. One was a gentle admirer of the paintings of Norman Rockwell. A podiatrist. "The Ned Flanders of his era." The other, James's namesake, was a Boston businessman, a huckster and a hard-drinking hellion who once told a young John F. Kennedy to go fuck himself. It's apparent that, conscious of it or not, Jimmy Reject takes after them both.

"I had a disturbed childhood," he says. "There were some pleasant memories, mostly centered around watching cartoons and drawing pictures. But I was bullied by other kids."

Then he found music.

"I bought a copy of Duran Duran's *Rio* and said, 'That's the best fuckin' music I've ever heard. Those guys are the coolest-lookin' motherfuckers.' I just wanted to be like them. It was hard to emulate them with my JC Penney wardrobe. And I got the shit kicked out of me. That got me angry and led me to punk."

Punk! Loud, fast, angry, drunk, pissed-off, fucked-up. Jamie Harrington found G.G. Allin — the lewd and crude misanthropic stooge who savaged himself and the audience — and he idolized him. He discovered the Dead Boys and the Dead Kennedys. Johnny Rotten. Darby Crash. He pored over 'zines like *Maximum Rocknroll* and *Flipside*. When he graduated from Marshfield High in 1989, his parents bought him a round-trip ticket to New York City, where he "drank like a fish" and smoked real dope, hung out with (and urinated on) semi-legendary scenester and scribe Donny the Punk, and got the shit beat out of him by straightedge kids at CBGB. Jimmy Reject was born. "I came for the anger, but stayed for the music," he says.

During this time he was also "tormented by all sorts of mental demons." In adult life, he'd be diagnosed as schizoaffective and bipolar. But back then he suffered through frightening delusions — "that I was Jesus Christ, Adolf Hitler, and somebody else at the same time . . . all sorts of crazy shit" — without really understanding why.

So he drank. And drank. He's dry now, and hasn't gotten drunk since 2003. Still, he says, "I love alcohol. I love getting fucked up. That was my raison d'être back then." The cover of *The Enemy's Within* shows him, eyes caked in kohl, sucking lustily on a bottle of Gordon's gin. That was how you'd find him most of the time. "It was a sense of failure," he explains. "A very sharp feeling of frustration, a big sense of rejection from females. There's always reason to drink." Perhaps worse for his precarious mental state, Harrington was complementing his liquid intake with sheets of LSD and bushels of pot.

But music was an outlet, too. He could keep time on a drum kit and started playing drums for a series of bands. First, in 1987, came Social Status. (Reflecting the '80s anti-nuke Zeitgeist, Harrington wanted to call 'em the Seabrook Mutants but was voted down.) "We sounded pathetic," he says. "Our amps were smaller than this table." Ritual Silence came next, in 1990. "I won't go too much into that, but they were real assholes. They kicked me out without telling me."

The Dismal Serenade, in '93, were a bunch of "Nazi goons," and a group he wishes he'd never joined. But the Dirge Carollers, in 1995, "were the band where I really cut my teeth." They even played at the Rat. Then, a year later, Jimmy Reject auditioned for the Dimestore Haloes.

"He was a little off, so to speak, but the entire band was like that," frontman Chaz Matthews remembers. "Awkward, never knew what to say to people. We were all taking antidepressants for various mental problems. It was hilarious that we all found each other and made music together under those circumstances."

But it was a glorious noise, melding the raw power of Hanoi Rocks and the Ramones, the glam-rock pout and louche sex appeal of T. Rex and the New York Dolls, the jilted romanticism of the Buzzcocks, the drunken dissolution of the Replacements. Song titles like "Kids Want Action," "City of Bottles," and "Hot Pink Stereo" pretty much told you everything you needed to know about the group's aesthetics.

And people loved them. Folks flocked to Haloes gigs at the Rat and the Middle East and O'Brien's. The national punk 'zines ate 'em up.

But the Dimestore Haloes took the middle-finger attitude of their music perhaps a bit too far. For one thing, they did their level best to talk shit about other bands from the cliquey Boston scene in every interview they did. Their trash-talking was born of "antagonism and frustration," says Harrington. "Everyone always looks back and says, 'We were just kidding.' But I don't think we were."

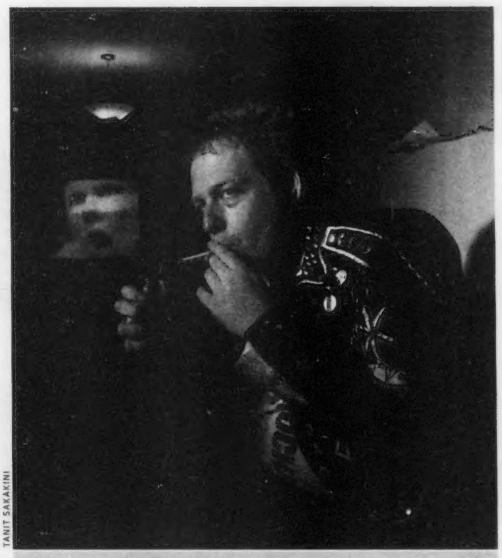
"I CAME FOR THE ANGER, BUT STAYED FOR THE MUSIC."

In 2003, after almost a decade-long run, the Dimestore Haloes called it quits. (Their final album, *The Ghosts of Saturday Night*, recorded in 2001 and 2002, was just released in June on Pelado Records.) The band ended in part because they never really made the effort to get out and tour and build up their fan base. But the group's make-up also did them in. "In a band of social misfits, [Jimmy] was the biggest social misfit," Matthews writes in an e-mail. "Where we were all functional on certain levels, he seemed not to be. It was the blind (us) leading the even blinder (Jimmy) sometimes."

Still, in many ways, Jimmy Reject *was* the Dimestore Haloes. "He really connected to the romance of what the Haloes were about," says Josh Rutledge, editor of *Now Wave* magazine, for which Harrington writes reviews. "Rallying against the apathy and mediocrity of the times, all that clichéd stuff. They were speaking out against that conformity, that shopping-mall ethos. I think Jimmy really believed that he was doing something important."

WRITING WRONGS

"I have this ongoing fantasy of kicking everybody else out of Massachusetts for a whole year," Jimmy Reject writes in his LiveJournal. "I would bide my time working from home at a rock journalism gig. The only way people could contact me would be by email. If I had to chat, I would call them. The scary and anti-social thing about that is it would take me quite a while to get sick of that. 'Jim, it's been six months since you've seen a human face. New York state is very crowded; you want to let the people back in?' 'I don't know, traffic's pretty smooth and lines are very short at the deli. Why don't you give me another two years. I'm really gettin' to know myself out here.' "



TANIT SAKAKINI

TWENTIETH-CENTURY BOY "Punk rock is the manic guitar thrust of go nowhere kids charging the street like atom bombs," writes Jimmy Reject.

It's not a half-bad idea.

Jimmy Reject writes for people who feel the same way. On his Web site (www.geocities.com/jreject), he posts a welcome letter:

> *Your band just played a bad show. You just got rejected by the girl of your dreams. You just got fired from a dishwashing job for incompetence. You stumble home shamefully through the late night streets, thinking that the rest of the world is too successful to fathom how you feel. That's when Jimmy Reject, the self described "Enemy Within" of modern culture is with you. He has psychically tapped into your wrath, and is off somewhere scrolling your dejection onto a word processor, stretching your go nowhere ramblings to the annals of immortality.*

It started in high school. In 1986, Jamie Harrington wrote a review of the Ramones' *Animal Boy* for some older kids' mimeographed 'zine. From there, he says, "it became sort of an addiction."

He cites William S. Burroughs and Lester Bangs as a couple of his favorite writers. He channels Burroughs's "trippy flow," and takes Bangs as his model rock critic, a guy who can simply sit down and bang out impassioned paeans and polemics. (Still, "for a guy who has two books out, I'm not that big of a reader. The last book that really kicked me in the ass was the Mötley Crüe biography. I thought that was the bomb.")

The writing of *Notes on Johnny Nihil* — the story of a virginal high-school student named Tracy who discovers punk and pot, then finds herself falling for a shady, smackhead guitarist named Johnny Nihil — was different from anything Harrington had yet tackled. For one thing, he was sober.

"December 2003 is the last time I got drunk," he says. "I've had three relapses since then. Usually on the eve of going back to the mental hospital. But in my mind, I consider myself [at] well over a year of sobriety."

All the same, while writing *Johnny Nihil*, Harrington was under "immense personal duress," having been diagnosed as bipolar and having great difficulty with that, even with medication. "Like many times in my life, it just shattered my ego," he says. "The complexity of that mindset kind of lends itself to that writing. It's the most finely crafted, meticulous, organized piece of writing I've done."

While the book has some awkward phrasing and its dialogue can be a bit clunky, it's also got a compelling narrative and real descriptive brio. Sometimes, even its overwriting aspires to a manic rhythm that approaches beat poetry: "Punk rock is the manic guitar thrust of go nowhere kids charging the street like sleek atom bombs, to penetrate the womb of human intelligence, exploding in a cascading flow of neon lust. I will carry my divine light prose through the darkened alleys of greaser punks to seduce and sweeten the crotches of teenage lust forever!"

Best of all, it feels lived-in. Even though Harrington insists the work is entirely fictional — he's never done heroin, for instance, but did consult a book called *Heroin from A to Z* — his experiences bleed through the text. When Tracy checks into a mental hospital, when Johnny goes to detox but the methadone doesn't work, "they're going through what I went through," he says. "They're having themselves crushed and rebuilt up from scratch."

The book was therapeutic, in its way. It's written from Tracy's point of view; Harrington thought it would be a challenge to write from a female perspective — and might help in other ways. "Some of my earlier stuff has sort of a misogynistic streak," he admits. "I'm working through that. I don't want to get too deep into it, but it's not so much misogyny as a general frustration and inability to be close [with a woman]. I'm dealing with that. And that's all I'm gonna say about it."

There's an empathy at work here, a solidarity with society's outcasts. But Harrington is emphatic that self-improvement must come from within. "The theme to *Johnny Nihil* is, if you need a messiah, be your own," he says.

There's still work to be done. It's one thing to be a fuck-it-all teenage punk, full of piss and vinegar and vanity and spleen, reveling in antagonizing society. But that changes, subtly but significantly, when you get older.

"When I was 18, listening to punk records over and over, reading fanzines over and over, all that dogma and drivel about fighting the system, it seemed kind of tired to me even then," Harrington says. Now, "as a thirtysomething, I can see how being an outsider is painful. It's very different from being a punk rocker. It's the fact that you can't pay your own bills and have to be taken care of. That's really easy to be ashamed of, y'know? There aren't many people walking around detached from the outside world who don't feel some sort of suffering from it."

He's speaking, of course, of his own situation. But as he sits there banging away at an old computer, working through his shit, he also wants all the other outcasts out there to know he's with them, that he knows how they feel. That's the opposite of rejection.

"My aim was to write something that was of tangible use to other people, if only on an emotional level," Harrington says. "If anyone reading this picks up *Notes on Johnny Nihil* and derives great help from it, then they've done me a bigger favor than I've done them." ⊙

To access links related to this article, read it online at BostonPhoenix.com. Mike Miliard can be reached at mmiliard@phx.com.

BY ROBERT NADEAU

Dining Out

OUR RATING		
Outstanding	⊕⊕⊕⊕	$ = $15 or less
Excellent	⊕⊕⊕	$$ = $16-$22
Good	⊕⊕	$$$ = $23-$30
Average	⊕	$$$$ = $31 and up
Poor	⊖	Based on average entrée price

Middlesex Lounge

Good food in a non-ironic, minimalist setting

BROOK GRIFFIN

IN THE NOW Minimalist chic at Middlesex Lounge.

Middlesex Lounge is the latest creation of the minimalist geniúses Chris Lute and Matthew Curtis, who always seem to capture the very now, from Miracle of Science (a few doors away) and Audubon Circle to Cambridge 1. Even for them, Middlesex Lounge is a remarkably stark room, and it is so much better than anything else around that it makes me wonder: what do their houses look like? What is their office like? What do they wear? What's on their iPods?

To start with, there isn't much of a sign marking the entrance. You have to know where you're going. But when the front door opens, it's not an empty room, even at 5:30 pm. (By nine, when the DJ starts, it's a crowded scene.) There are low, rolling, bench-like seating platforms. There are square tables the exact same height made of inch-thick plywood. These things are arranged into alcoves along the walls, with the center open, but people can move them into any sort of arrangement.

Middlesex Lounge is a place where there's nothing retro or revived, no camp, no irony. A while back, someone got so aggravated with '60s and '70s revivals that he started a movement calling for the progress of time. This is where the group could hold meetings.

They could also have food — and as at the team's other restaurants, it is quite good. (This menu is dinner-only; the restaurant also offers a weekday lunch with pressed sandwiches.) There are 10 possibilities, no desserts. Fairly arbitrarily, we started with shrimp shumai ($5) and "ten tiny tacos" ($8). The former, a typical Cantonese dim sum, are a half-dozen barrels of shrimp as sweet and fresh in their bamboo steamer as I've ever had in Chinatown. The soy-garlic dip was impeccable.

The "ten tiny tacos" are even better, perhaps because there is so little quality Mexican food in Boston. There's a choice of black bean or pulled pork, but our server allowed us to mix, so that's what we did. Each taco is a neat canapé on a single cupped taco chip. Each contains a slice of jalapeño, like the nachos of old, but also a big leaf of cilantro, a slice of avocado, and a smidgen of salsa. The beans or pork really make no difference in the strong flavors of the trimmings, but each of our 10 bites was excellent.

We followed with the Kobe-beef burger ($14) and the porcini ravioli ($9). The latter were only six ravioli, each stuck with a toothpick; this served to remind us to savor each one as an individual dumpling of wild mushroom, in its sauce of garlicky cream. The burger arrived as a large, flat patty pressed into toast (the sandwich press still lurks somewhere) and cut into four fingers. On the side were little deconstructed piles of sea salt, cracked black pepper, and a brownish mince with the sweetness of ketchup, but with a different flavor . . . caramelized onions! So you can put together a burger of traditional flavor profile, but without actual ketchup. The only weak spot here is the word Kobe, implying supremely tender and expensive beef, but tasting rather run-of-the-mill.

There are no desserts. Apparently one eats, one drinks, one perhaps dances. For a sweet, one walks a block to Toscanini's. *Perché no?*

We were still hungry, so we added an order of jerk-chicken sticks ($5), perhaps as a tacit tribute to the Jamaican restaurant and dance club, Rhythm & Spice, that used to be in this space, or perhaps as a tribute to Miracle of Science, which opened with a menu almost entirely of skewers. The standard order is three; we added an extra ($1.50 additional). We were glad we did, as the skewers are thick and juicy, with plenty of spice — the appropriate allspice and hot pepper. The mango dip is more like applesauce, not very mango, but very cooling on the palate.

It was too early for the bar drinks, but there's a wine list and an excellent list of bottled beers, including some unusual ones, as well as Guinness stout ($4) and Harpoon IPA ($4). There is also a fine list of non-alcoholic drinks that includes San Pellegrino limonata or aranciata ($2), but not the weirdly Campari-like "Sanbitter."

For more great minimalism, check out the bathrooms. First you have to get through unmarked (that no-sign thing again) doors nine feet high and two inches thick. Then you have a sink that looks momentarily like soapstone, but is actually the definitive contemporary counter surface: sealed and tinted (black, in this case) concrete. Very cool.

ON THE ROCKS

Two hard blows for New England fish lovers as the commercial striped-bass season ends and summer bluefish runs into its slack period: new studies show that the codfish population on Georges Bank is still in decline, and more serious conservation may be indicated. Cod schrod isn't the most flavorful of fish, but the local catch has been a sweet standby, and airmail snapper is just not the same thing.

Then I was reading the new book, *Striper Wars*, by Martha's Vineyard activist Dick Russell. It chronicles the efforts to get the striper back on our tables when populations crashed in the 1980s. Those stories, which pull in everything from lying power companies to nuclear-plant outflow, as well as commercial overfishing, are important history, and enjoyable reading now that big stripers are back. What is frightening is Russell's opening, about losses of the crucial Chesapeake Bay breeding population to a commercial fishery for its prime food fish, menhaden. Once more, the striped-bass pyramid is crumbling at the base, and the villain is what we used to tout as good ecology — a fishery for a species no one used to eat. Today, we eat farmed fish (more good ecology until you think it through) fed on fish meal made from menhaden. And, to ensure that we live long enough to see the striper population crash again, we take omega-3 fish-oil pills made from, alas, Chesapeake Bay menhaden. So once more the striped bass, a fish that fed early Americans well (while codfish provided a cash commodity), is headed for the rocks — unless we step in with a vision of the whole marine ecology. ⊙

Robert Nadeau can be reached at RobtNadeau@aol.com.

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These listings have been distilled from our most recent full-length reviews. Entrée prices are rounded to the nearest dollar. Restaurant hours, credit-card policy, and liquor information are not included, so be sure to call ahead.

GOLDEN LEAF | 20 Hudson St, Boston | 617.988.8188 | $6–$18 | Not the greatest Malaysian restaurant ever in Boston, but possibly the prettiest, and you can have a lot of fun in the faux South Seas with the delectable homemade house special tofu (it's fried), otak-otak (kind of a shrimp tamale), stir-fried ladyfingers (which are actually okra), and any of the whole fish. The menu includes every Asian dessert ever invented, but the bubble-tea masses have not discovered this.

BBQ TOWN | 4000 Washington St, Roslindale | 617.522.1010 | $6–$13 | A Latino-owned barbecue joint. Ribs and tostones. Why not? You've enjoyed Greek pizza; why not soul food with a Hispanic accent? In fact, the beef and pork ribs have a good hint of smoke, and the collard greens are just as overcooked as anywhere. Pretty good fried seafood. A multi-cultural crowd is happy with it, and so are we.

VILLAGE SMOKEHOUSE | 6 Harvard St, Brookline | 617.566.3782 | $8–$20 | Enormously popular exponent of white-guy Boston barbecue: ribs and such precooked and finished on an open grill so the sauce burns on. We don't approve, but the place has been jammed since 1987. It must be the beer, or the Texas décor.

BLUE-RIBBON BAR-B-Q | 908 Mass Ave, Arlington | 781.648.7427 | $5–$13 | Seldom enough tables, so get there early and enjoy real smoked barbecue, serious side dishes and desserts, and enough atmosphere to float a full rack of ribs. Where there's smoke, the brisket is always the best. The pulled pork is also quite smoky, and thus inauthentic, but justly popular.

BRAVO | 465 Huntington Ave (Museum of Fine Arts), Boston | 617.369.3474 | $15–$25 | Bravo is only open for dinner Wednesday through Friday, so it must be aimed at the "ladies who lunch." Nevertheless, there is a lot of value here, from the well-spaced tables and quiet elegance to some provocative spins on familiar dishes — a seared tuna with Moroccan spices instead of the usual Japanese; a grilled wild salmon with a crumb topping like scrod — and beautifully decorated desserts. It fits into lots of different museum visits, and gives you free evening parking as an additional discount.

EASTERN STANDARD | 528 Comm Ave, Boston | 617.532.9100 | $8–$27 | A big room that gives a terrific and appetizing impression of the old-fashioned big restaurants. The menu is all over the place, with revived comfort food like cod fritters and spaghetti carbonara and lamb shanks among the best food, a solid raw bar, and some variable bistro food, with conservative desserts. It's not the top price point, so you can have a lot of fun selecting well.

FOUNDATION LOUNGE | 500 Comm Ave, Boston | 617.859.9900 | $13–$23 | Despite the Kenmore Square location, we're here for exquisite, expensive Japanese bar snacks to be savored slowly with a fine sake. Try the crispest spring rolls ever, super shumai, sushi to savor, and mochi ice cream for a kind of dessert. It's stuff we'd associate with a tea ceremony in a temple garden, but here we're in this rather loud subterranean bar, so dress casual and expensive.

Continued on p 30

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Twists on tuna

Fishing for something different

With tuna fish, it's a love-or-hate relationship. For me, it's on the side of a big red heart; whether it be a dented tin of Bumblebee or a fancy jar of imported Spanish Ortiz tuna ($10.95) at Formaggio Kitchen (244 Huron Avenue, Cambridge; 268 Shawmut Avenue, Boston), I'm content. The best part is how versatile it is, how you can dress it up with almost anything you might have in the fridge. Fortunately, a few places in Boston have taken it upon themselves to create some new taste inventions, which have saved me from making a mess of my lunch. Flour Bakery (1595 Washington Street, Boston) boasts a sandwich with herbed tuna, sliced hard-boiled eggs, olive tapenade, and pickled carrots ($6.50). The ingredients are laid between two pieces of fresh white focaccia bread, making a smooth and tangy meal. The deli counters at Whole Foods have also come up with a perfect combo: sweet tuna fish, dried cranberries, Fuji apples, and an abundance of spices, most predominately fresh dill ($7.99/pound). This tuna makes a delicious sandwich or salad, but if you're like me, all you'll need is a fork.

MELISSA OSTROW

nearby cafés when tables aren't ready. No desserts, so it's back to the cafés. No problem.
PIATTINI | 162 Columbus Ave, Boston | 617.423.2021 | $15-$26 [lunch $8-$12] | Piattini means "small plates" and that's what you want, although the entrées (which are small-ish) are just fine. Don't miss the arancini (fried saffron rice balls), soup, beet salad, and the entrée of lamb with wonderful white beans. A lot of the fun is flights of wine, three tasting glasses of mostly Italian wines for a little more than a single glass of wine elsewhere.
SMILE THAI CAFE | 16-18 Eliot St, Cambridge | 617.497.8288 | $8-$13 [lunch $7] | Up a lot of stairs and no liquor license. After that it's all good news: lots of authentic, cheap, Thai food, with outstanding golden bags, golden triangles, Harvard noodles (ก๋วยเตี๋ยว educated chow foon), seafood combinations, even a Thai custard — like a little taro soufflé — for dessert.
SORRISO ITALIAN TRATTORIA | 107 South St, Boston | 617.259.1560 | $13-$21 | Les Zygomates' little Italian sister has very nice food, some good wines, and moderate prices, and will eventually skim off some of the hip crowd. Meanwhile, enjoy the brick-oven pizzas, little bites like white-bean pureé, homemade pastas, and highly flavored entrées like oxtail ragout over polenta and pan-seared skate with borlotti beans.
TANTRIC BAR & GRILL | 123 Stuart St, Boston | 617.367.8742 | $9-$19 | Larger, posher, and less overtly ethnic than most Indian restaurants in Boston, Tantric also has somewhat better food, in a style that's a fusion of North Indian cooking techniques and flavors from southern and western regions. Our critic's favorites from the large menu were the appetizer shrimp with mustard seeds, five-spice salad, Bengali fish, okra do plaza, all the stuffed breads, and mango kulfi for dessert. It's a handsome room, so dress handsomely.
MACHU PICCHU | 25 Union Square, Somerville | 617.623.7972 | $9-$13 | Peruvian food is meat and potatoes with a subtle touch of hot peppers, as well as excellent fresh ceviche. At this modest storefront, don't miss the papa la Huancaina in the potato category, or the bistek a lo pobre under meat. For dessert, have them all for $3 each. Welcoming, bilingual service and a crowd that is nostalgic or curious in about equal proportions. Did we mention cheap?
SMITH & WOLLENSKY | 101 Arlington St, Boston | 617.423.1112 | $19-$38 | This may not be the "steak house to end all arguments," but it is certainly the largest, most excessive, and most expensive to open inBoston in a long, long time. The setting in the Castle, with a military museum distributed over four floors of dining rooms, is lots of fun. The menu logic is big-occasion — go for the aged steaks and raw seafood bouquets despite the expense. You can snipe out some relative bargains on the wine list, but nothing succeeds here like excess and taking home the extras. Dress up; everyone else does.
THE WINE CELLAR | 30 Mass Ave, Boston | 617.236.0080 | $36-$56 [for two, a la carte] | The concept is fondues for appetizers, main dishes, and desserts. Our critic suggests a salad for openers, one of the cheese fondues, and one of the chocolate fondues for dessert. The other part of the concept is high-end wine, and our critic suggests low-balling the half bottles and the "Wow" list of aged and overlooked gems. It's a fiddly, lengthy evening with lots of things served for two — perhaps better for dates than serious gourmandize, despite the great wines.
METROPOLITAN CLUB | 1210 Boylston St (Rte. 9), Chestnut Hill | 617.731.0600 | $14-$45 | Metropolitan Club is designed to be a modern steak house, which is to say, a big-occasion restaurant serving steaks, seafood, side vegetables, and enough pasta and desserts to challenge the conventional view of steak houses. It's a good job, especially when chef Jeff Fournier gets playful, as with his "watermelon steak" appetizer. Have that, a steak, lobster, or monkfish osso bucco, and the sorbets or chocolate parfait for dessert. With some side vegetables, it will be expensive, but satisfying.
ZAFFERANO | 999 Saratoga St, East Boston | 617.561.2922 | $9-$27 | Remember discovering a great little restaurant in the North End months before anyone else knew how good it was? You still can, but of course only in East Boston, and rather out of the main squares at that, if you go up to Orient Heights for Zafferano, the dream of a young couple from Avellino, east of Naples. Homemade pastas, grilled meats and vegetables, and a fine hand with seafood make for a pleasant evening, and a list of value-priced Italian regional wines lifts that evening to another level.
SYMPHONY SUSHI | 45 Gainsborough St, Boston | 617.262.3888 | $9-$17 [lunch $7-$9] | Good sized and extremely useful restaurant near Symphony Hall and Northeastern, with excellent sushi and sashimi, including some of those post-modern rolls, hot Japanese entrées, and a bit of fusion food. Early on, some people will be dressed for the symphony or theater; later it's cheap dates. Your cheap date might as well skip entrées, since the sashimi and sashimi-salad apps are as good as the dinners but more modest in size, and then you could get the spinach or the shai mai dumplings and have a meal that's more fun.
GOURMET SEAFOOD | 46 Beach St, Boston | 617.695.3700 | $5-$33 | An enormous English-language menu, even by Chinatown standards, but Hong Kong seafood — much of it not translated and from the live tanks — is the hallmark, along with excellent Chinese broccoli and rice plates and chow foon galore. Pleasant surroundings despite being in a basement.
AVENUE ONE | 1 Avenue de Lafayette (Hyatt Regency), Boston | 617.422.5579 | $19-$32 | Relaxed and well-designed hotel dining room near Downtown Crossing features familiar dishes with novel spins, and three fondues (classic, blue cheese, and chocolate). Our critic loved the apple-cheddar tart, the side dishes with the lobster, and the chocolate fondue, but mostly the versatility and tone.
MARQUEE NIGHTCLUB | 57 Canal St, Boston | 617.523.1112 | $10-$18 | An Irish bar where most menu items called "Irish" actually are Irish, and good, too. We like the Irish sausage appetizer, the Guinness-marinated steak tips, and the inexpensive dessert of the day. Mashed potatoes, obviously, is the key side dish. Dress for a pub most of the time, but for a nightclub later in the evening.

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Twists on tuna

Fishing for something different

With tuna fish, it's a love-or-hate relationship. For me, it's on the side of a big red heart; whether it be a dented tin of Bumblebee or a fancy jar of imported Spanish Ortiz tuna ($10.95) at Formaggio Kitchen (244 Huron Avenue, Cambridge; 268 Shawmut Avenue, Boston), I'm content. The best part is how versatile it is, how you can dress it up with almost anything you might have in the fridge. Fortunately, a few places in Boston have taken it upon themselves to create some new taste inventions, which have saved me from making a mess of my lunch. Flour Bakery (1595 Washington Street, Boston) boasts a sandwich with herbed tuna, sliced hard-boiled eggs, olive tapenade, and pickled carrots ($6.50). The ingredients are laid between two pieces of fresh white focaccia bread, making a smooth and tangy meal. The deli counters at Whole Foods have also come up with a perfect combo: sweet tuna fish, dried cranberries, Fuji apples, and an abundance of spices, most predominately fresh dill ($7.99/pound). This tuna makes a delicious sandwich or salad, but if you're like me, all you'll need is a fork.

MELISSA OSTROW

nearby cafés when tables aren't ready. No desserts, so it's back to the cafés. No problem.

PIATTINI | 162 Columbus Ave, Boston | 617.423.2021 | $15-$26 [lunch $8-$12] | Piattini means "small plates" and that's what you want, although the entrées (which are small-ish) are just fine. Don't miss the arancini (fried saffron rice balls), soup, beet salad, and the entrée of lamb with wonderful white beans. A lot of the fun is flights of wine, three tasting glasses of mostly Italian wines for a little more than a single glass of wine elsewhere.

SMILE THAI CAFE | 16-18 Eliot St, Cambridge | 617.497.8288 | $8-$13 [lunch $7] | Up a lot of stairs and no liquor license. After that it's all good news: lots of authentic, cheap, Thai food, with outstanding golden bags, golden triangles, Harvard noodles (just educated chow foon), seafood combinations, even a Thai custard — like a little taro soufflé — for dessert.

SORRISO ITALIAN TRATTORIA | 107 South St, Boston | 617.259.1560 | $13-$21 | Les Zygomates' little Italian sister has very nice food, some good wines, and moderate prices, and will eventually skim off some of the hip crowd. Meanwhile, enjoy the brick-oven pizzas, little bites like white-bean pureé, homemade pastas, and highly flavored entrées like oxtail ragout over polenta and pan-seared skate with borlotti beans.

TANTRIC BAR & GRILL | 123 Stuart St, Boston | 617.367.8742 | $9-$19 | Larger, posher, and less overtly ethnic than most Indian restaurants in Boston, Tantric also has somewhat better food, in a style that's a fusion of North Indian cooking techniques and flavors from southern and western regions. Our critic's favorites from the large menu were the appetizer shrimp with mustard seeds, five-spice salad, Bengali fish, okra do piaza, all the stuffed breads, and mango kulfi for dessert. It's a handsome room, so dress handsomely.

MACHU PICCHU | 25 Union Square, Somerville | 617.623.7972 | $9-$13 | Peruvian food is meat and potatoes with a subtle touch of hot peppers, as well as excellent fresh ceviche. At this modest storefront, don't miss the papa la Huancaina in the potato category, or the bistek a lo pobre under meat. For dessert, have them all for $3 each. Welcoming, bilingual service and a crowd that is nostalgic or curious in about equal proportions. Did we mention cheap?

SMITH & WOLLENSKY | 101 Arlington St, Boston | 617.423.1112 | $19-$38 | This may not be the "steak house to end all arguments," but it is certainly the largest, most excessive, and most expensive to open inBoston in a long, long time. The setting in the Castle, with a military museum distributed over four floors of dining rooms, is lots of fun. The menu logic is big-occasion — go for the aged steaks and raw seafood bouquets despite the expense. You can snipe out some relative bargains on the wine list, but nothing succeeds here like excess and taking home the extras. Dress up; everyone else does.

THE WINE CELLAR | 30 Mass Ave, Boston | 617.236.0080 | $36-$56 [for two, a la carte] | The concept is fondues for appetizers, main dishes, and desserts. Our critic suggests a salad for openers, one of the cheese fondues, and one of the chocolate fondues for dessert. The other part of the concept is high-end wine, and our critic suggests low-balling the half bottles and the "Wow" list of aged and overlooked gems. It's a fiddly, lengthy evening with lots of things served for two — perhaps better for dates than serious gourmandize, despite the great wines.

METROPOLITAN CLUB | 1210 Boylston St (Rte. 9), Chestnut Hill | 617.731.0600 | $14-$45 | Metropolitan Club is designed to be a modern steak house, which is to say, a big-occasion restaurant serving steaks, seafood, side vegetables, and enough pasta and desserts to challenge the conventional view of steak houses. It's a good job, especially when chef Jeff Fournier gets playful, as with his "watermelon steak" appetizer. Have that, a steak, lobster, or monkfish osso bucco, and the sorbets or chocolate parfait for dessert. With some side vegetables, it will be expensive, but satisfying.

ZAFFERANO | 999 Saratoga St, East Boston | 617.561.2922 | $9-$27 | Remember discovering a great little restaurant in the North End months before anyone else knew how good it was? You still can, but of course only in East Boston, and rather out of the main squares at that, if you go up to Orient Heights for Zafferano, the dream of a young couple from Avellino, east of Naples. Homemade pastas, grilled meats and vegetables, and a fine hand with seafood make for a pleasant evening, and a list of value-priced Italian regional wines lifts that evening to another level.

SYMPHONY SUSHI | 45 Gainsborough St, Boston | 617.262.3888 | $9-$17 [lunch $7-$9] | Good sized and extremely useful restaurant near Symphony Hall and Northeastern, with excellent sushi and sashimi, including some of those post-modern rolls, hot Japanese entrées, and a bit of fusion food. Early on, some people will be dressed for the symphony or theater; later it's cheap dates. Your cheap date might as well skip entrées, since the sashimi and sashimi-salad apps are as good as the dinners but more modest in size, and then you could get the spinach or the shai mai dumplings and have a meal that's more fun.

GOURMET SEAFOOD | 46 Beach St, Boston | 617.695.3700 | $5-$33 | An enormous English-language menu, even by Chinatown standards, but Hong Kong seafood — much of it not translated and from the live tanks — is the hallmark, along with excellent Chinese broccoli and rice plates and chow foon galore. Pleasant surroundings despite being in a basement.

AVENUE ONE | 1 Avenue de Lafayette (Hyatt Regency), Boston | 617.422.5579 | $19-$32 | Relaxed and well-designed hotel dining room near Downtown Crossing features familiar dishes with novel spins, and three fondues (classic, blue cheese, and chocolate). Our critic loved the apple-cheddar tart, the side dishes with the lobster, and the chocolate fondue, but mostly the versatility and tone.

MARQUEE NIGHTCLUB | 57 Canal St, Boston | 617.523.1112 | $10-$18 | An Irish bar where most menu items called "Irish" actually are Irish, and good, too. We like the Irish sausage appetizer, the Guinness-marinated steak tips, and the inexpensive dessert of the day. Mashed potatoes, obviously, is the key side dish. Dress for a pub most of the time, but for a nightclub later in the evening.

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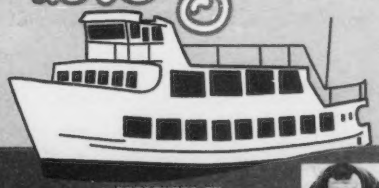

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

OCEAN LOVER
Very attractive, sweet SWF, 33, seeks sincere SWM, 33-53 for regular dates that end with romantic, exciting nights "parking" along the ocean, where we can gaze at the beauty of the moon over the water and listen to the soothing sounds of the ocean as we enjoy each other. Others may watch but are respectful. Serious inquiries only please, all will be answered. Must be D/D free as well as a non smoker w/ no tattoos, piercings, not into swinging. ☎4089

LET'S DO THIS RIGHT
You know you've been thinking about answering some of these ads. What's keeping you from doing it? Is it money? Is it cowardliness? Are you telling me you're intimidated? All I have to say is **you only live once.** So, get over your cowardliness, and **pull out your...um...** wallet, and call me to place your ad or buy a block of time.

No worries: I'll give you a **hot** deal. Just call and see.
617 450 8761

SEXY NYMPHO
Sexy, dark-eyed Hispanic female, 25, 5'5", with "anything goes" policy. Into spankings, tickling, toys and more. If you're a tall, wild, attractive man who's very oral and thinks he can keep up, let me fulfil your fantasies. ☎9853

SOMETHING NEW FOR YOU?
SBF, 25, gorgeous lips and thighs, open to anything and very adventurous. Looking to expand my experience and horizons. I enjoy oral and voyeurism. ☎4430

CURIOUS LADY
I am a single 38-year-old smartass, easy on the eyes, and well versed in missionary sex. I have vivid though unrealized fantasies and would like caring and patient partners to guide me through sadistic-free adventures. Portland Maine area. Interested in discreet, good-looking, professional, literate and healthy partners, man, men or straight couples. Sense of humor a must. Again it is important that you can be tender and patient while I learn and we explore. ☎3169

ON THE WINGS OF THE NIGHT
Full of life and incredibly open minded, I seek the same in others. I'm looking for someone who can be a firm yet loving master. I am a willing and well-trained sub who has yet to find the one who can dominate me sexually with both discipline and tenderness. ☎3172

!TAKE THE PLUNGE!
A few of these ads have caught your eye, but you're **scared shitless** to use your credit card in the fear that your statement will read, "I answered an Erosphere Adult Personals ad." **Calm down!** It doesn't say anything of the sort! It will simply say 'TPI.' **Very coy and discreet. Just like you!** So, now that I've relieved you, pick up the phone and **get some real relief.** To use your debit or credit card, call 1-617-859-3335.

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Write your own ad, and get some messages of your own from people who think just like you do! Call me at 617 450 8761 to place your Erosphere Adult Personals ad. Go for it!

FANTASY ISLAND
Attractive, tall, hourglass princess, seeks secure gentleman to fulfill your fantasies. Want to explore the other side of life. ☎1105

PUERTO RICAN CUTIE
Seeking a young lover 18-25 years old, physically fit, D/D free, and very discreet. No strings attached. ☎2711

TOTALLY CURIOUS
Don't know what to write really, but I know that I'm just totally curious to see where that leads. Don't have a particular thing in mind, like I said, just curious...VERY. @ JBCA ☎3253

ALICIN WANDERLAND
I am hot to trot, curious and curious-er. I have big boobs and pretty green eyes. I am always safe. I enjoy role play and exhibitionism. Favorite thing: doing it in forbidden places. ☎2724

SEXY COLLEGE STUDENT
19 year old, S. Shore area college student and dancer, 5'1,108lbs, hour glass shape, nice ass, with a shaved p*ssy. I love being slammed and dominated during sex. Looking for casual sex, male/female. @ IcePrincess720 ☎3566

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS
Gorgeous brunette, very sensual, likes to mountain bike, seeks secure gentleman only. Very accomdating. ☎2161

GOTHIC DOMME
Seeks playful pet. I am 21, 5'2, WF, brown/green. Do you desire someone to explore your wildest fantasies that you thought could never come true? I cater to many fetishes and await your call! ☎3473

B&D BONDAGE BABE
I'm 28, long lovely legs, and into kink. Looking for a man under 45 with culture, flair. Love S&M and toys. Come to my playground! ☎3352

TONGUE PIERCING
I am 20 year-old 5'2" black/brown, 125lbs, tattoos, tongue and lip piercings. Looking for a in shape guy 19+ to have some fun with so if your ready to play, leave me a message. ☎3162

SEX-SEX-SEX
Crazy, kinky female who is into anything and everything you can think of especially girls, bisexual guys, bicurious guys, threesomes, etc. I'm std-free and drama-free. Looking for serious, erotic males and/or females, couples who are down-to-earth, clean and between 21 and 35. Just pure, fun sex. @ mindingutter ☎3090

33SWbiF400D, 5'0"
HOT / HORNY TEDDY BARE LMT, DREAM mASSeuse Greek Tantra Goddess, ALL languages! Passionate, Caring, pierced tongue & kitty, seeks adventurous professional who enjoys Nudist. ☎3319

LIP GODDESS
Sweet, voluptuous woman who loves safe sex for 4 to 6 hours a night. Extremely flexible plus sized woman. Looking for men who can go for hours, have their own place, be clean and honest. Blondes and redheads especially! @ lipgoddess ☎2439

YOU'VE FOUND THE BEST!
I specialize in pleasure. Along with this killer body comes a great mind and attractive personality. I'm looking for generous gentlemen to see on a regular basis. ☎2983

CALLING ALL SUGAR DADDIES
I am 22, sexy, and frisky. I am tall clean and discreet. I love to please. I am looking for a man to spoil me and keep me satisfied. ☎2984

TEACH ME TONIGHT, PLEASE
Are you a sexually dominant man with powerful hands and an intuitive approach to BDSM? Because of my strength and independence, my surrender is especially intense. Please be experienced, competent, single and progressive. I'm 50+ and hungry to learn true pleasure. ☎3480

SALT-N-PEPPER?
Sexy Latina woman seeks an older adventurous man, no strings attached, D/D free, physically fit, salt n pepper hair a plus. ☎2945

BLACK BBW SEEKS WM
I am 5'5, with short dark hair, dark eyes, and dark skin, easy going, funny, and never married. I like a man who is funny, intelligent, affectionate, easy going, playful, energetic, and looking to find a lady to date for a real relationship, possibly leading to LTR. ☎9761

BOSSY SPANKER
Beautiful, bossy, slim-waisted hispanic female, aged 31, is looking for a buff, and funny man to spank me. I am open to other BDSM activities as well. ☎1277

STRICT AND SEXY
Beautiful and dominant, sadistic and youn: turn-ons include BD/SM, foot tantilation, humiliation scenes, abusive verbality, CBT, cross-dressing. Seeking subs to worship my body and my mind. ☎4463

JUST A FLING
Want a man, but don't want to date. Just want some sexual adventures. So leave me a message if you want to have fun evenings in Boston with a stunning, classy yet erotic, petite 5'3" luscscious green-eyed blond with rock hard abs. Not an escort. Please be a professional and over 35. You ready to flirt? ☎3474

BLACK BBW SEEKS WM
I am 5'5, with short dark hair, dark eyes, and dark skin, easy going, funny, and never married. I like a man who is funny, intelligent, affectionate, easy going, playful, energetic, and looking to find a lady to date for a real relationship, possibly leading to LTR. ☎9761

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SHHH...
Very attractive female seeks one clean, discreet gentleman that will take care of me as well as I will be taking care of him. Serious replies only. Only mature gentlemen who knows what he wants and that being a one on one mutual understanding. ☎3153

SLAVE
Definition: Obedient, open or willing to learn and to please, patient, beginner or experienced if you have a knowledge of being humble and a desire to be with a beautiful domina, you may reply. ☎2590

DISCRETION ASSURED
Sensuous, sophisticated, full-figured 25-year-old blonde beauty in SE Mass, would love to meet an affectionate, mature, kind, gentleman over the age of 45 for dinner and more. ☎2951

DOMESTIC SLAVES
Truly selfless, serious, capable, dedicated domestic slaves are you ready to roll up your sleeves and work hard to serve a very busy full-figured lady executive in Southern Mass? ☎2951

A PERFECT 10!
I'm 24 and new to this. A hottie to say the least. I am looking for someone fun and stable, not too old and please be attractive, and financially secure would be nice. ☎1482

EBONY AND IVORY
I am 5'6", attractive, exotic eyes, dark skin, funny, intelligent, with a great sense of humor. Looking to find a SWM, attractive, sexy, intelligent, and well endowed. You must be romantic and classy. ☎1735

TAKE ME UNDER YOUR WING
I'm very ready for new explorations and experiences. I'm very passionate and sensual to the point of insatiable. I have no previous experiences except in my daily fantasies. Looking for a completely self-confident experienced dominant person to show me the way. Professional well educated person in a safe and trusting environment. ☎1835

BBW SUB SEEKS HUNG DOMME
I am a punk rock, submissive, BBW into spanking, big cocks, and following orders. I want to find a well hung domme who will spank me. Penetration a must, not seeking just light play. ☎9998

MALE SUBMISSIVE NEEDED
Live in male Submissive wanted by Mistress and Vixen. I own room, full house privileges, dungeon on-site. House keeping, cooking, errands and computer savvy required. Gay or straight, clean neat freak preferred. No parties except mine. On the Red Line, part time. Low rent, utilities shared, application and resume, references required. Discretion assured. Not a sexual relationship, but a dominant and worshipped Woman's boy will do just fine. My parties are awesome. You will be the host, butler, server, or footstool. Whatever I say. ☎2357

SENSUOUS AND SEXY
Fun-loving, attractive, long blond hair, petite, hourglass figure seeks, kind, caring, business executive type. Please be serious-minded, clean and discreet. ☎2944

FOOT VIXEN
Female supremacist whose high arches and perfect toes can bring a submissive to his knees. Strapped into a straight jacket, my toes will tease you to the brink of insanity. Inescapable bondage mingled with unimaginable titillation. ☎9049

BIG GIRL WANTS TO LEARN
Anyone want to show me the way? I'm someone that is DYING to come out of her shell. It doesn't take too much once I get going. Enjoy sex greatly, into some pain, biting, and leaving little marks. Help me find some of my hidden desires. I am a big girl at 5'7" and about 250 lbs. Think you can handle it? ☎1437

VERY VOLUPTUOUS
SBF seeking very single WM who are sexually adventurous, and willing to try new things. ☎2346

BIGGER THE BETTER
Sexy, dark-eyed female, 24, 5'1", dark-skinned, 140lbs, turned on by a well-built man, 30-45. Must be well-endowed, 6"+, also romantic, N/S. ☎9237

PENELOPE CRUZ LOOK-ALIKE
SWF, 23-year-old, college student, seeking unmarried professional dominating father-like male, age 25-37. ☎2584

WATCH, PLAY, COMMAND
I have two beautiful slaves, ages 22 and 24, and they are eager to please me. As a Dominatrix, I am seeking a dominant male partner to share in disciplining duties. Come visit us in my lair and We will instruct them on how to please Us. ☎2006

GOOD LIL' GEISHA
Young Japanese student, 21, looking for a sugar daddy to tell me what to do. I'm small boned, with long black hair and a subservient manner. Tell me to get your dinner, your slippers, or do something else! ☎2005 (exp:11.04.05)

MESSY MINDY
Cover me in anything! Drive me wild! I'm 26, wild and crazy, and love to be covered in all sorts of goo or toppings during sex. Turn me into your own personal sundae and devour me from head to toe! ☎1998

HOT CHOCOLATE
African American hottie, 28, great cheekbones, luscious thighs, seeks someone who is ready to drink my warmth. I'm 6'2", but I just want short guys-under 5'8"! Try eating marshmallows off of my belly! ☎1995

LUNCH HOUR FLOWER
Are you looking for a better way to spend your lunch hour? Come lunch on me! We'll meet in a secret location where all of our hot and wild fantasies will come true. Then we'll head back to the cube farm! I'm hot, you should be too! ☎1990

ORAL
Attractive, sexy SWF, 33, 5'5", brunette, nice body, 34C. Seeks SWM, 31+, for reciprocal oral fun, possible LTR. Enjoys exhibitionism. ☎4089

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IS IT JUST ME, OR IS IT GETTING HOT IN HERE?
And you should be getting hot too. If you are a woman, and want to get in contact with any of the men advertising in this section, then give me a call, and I'll hook you up with some **FREE** respondent time. Go on, you know you've been thinking about it. Call 617-450-8761 for a trial 30 minutes to talk to these fine gentlemen.
617-450-8761
★★★★★

BRATTY?
Experience athletic good looking young male.Seeks bratty deliciously sassy 20 something girl for spanking play. ☎3236

WANTED SUBMISSIVE
Petite Asian. Handsome SWM seeks young bi hourglass (D/T massage bondage goth) let me be your master. ☎3235

I WILL BEG FOR IT
Severely submissive SWM begs to undergo a complete ego destruction done by a demanding and commanding dominant female. I will fulfill your every devilish desire and wicked whim. I will succeed where many other very good slaves have tried so hard but failed. PLEASE, PLEASE call sacred GODDESS. ☎9106

OLD BUZZARD
Discreet MWM, 59, seeks compatible mature female to soar over SE Mass and find that perfect place to roost and enjoy ourselves. ☎3234

COME GET SOME
SWM seeking women 25-50 into voyeurism, oral sex, exploring and fulfilling fantasies. D/D free. ☎3151

BBW SPANK
Novice, dominant WM, 40, 5'9", nice equipment, seeking kinky, fun, full-figured, voluptuous lady for role-playing, B&D, spanking, mutual satisfaction. What's your fetish? ☎3150

JUST FOR FUN
SWM, 45 years old, tall, br/blue, slim, looking for a slim, adventurous female 38-58. ☎2956

MEN SEEKING MEN

SPANDEX SUPERHERO
Wearing silky pantyhose makes me feel sexy and helpless. The soft, tight shiny material hugging my legs is a total turn on. I'm also into Spandex/superhero roleplay and Latex/lube. I Fantasize about being a Nylon and Spandex clad superhero or heroine caught and dominated by a villain. I'm a big guy and I'm looking for a bigger guy to take me and molest me and use me for his pleasure. I would prefer a giant fat man who can make me feel small and helpless. @ salaxpravus ☎3088

BEFORE PENETRATION
Most of my friends would say I have a dominant side. I am 5'6" and 155lbs. Love sensuality - like touching, candles and massage - are as important as sex. Foreplay is fun. I like (lots of foreplay before/going straight to) penetration. ☎3176

BI-CURIOUS
Good looking, in-shape, discreet, and clean bi-curious WM, 33, seeks similar, 20-40, for no strings body worship, massage, maybe more. Feeling under-appreciated? Wife not giving and game? Let's get together. ☎9985

UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES
Need help to get there. Need someone who can get me feeling right, then sit back and enjoy it. If you're feeling really right bring big thick friends to cum over. ☎3167

SOCK/FOOT FETISH
I am a 28-year-old attractive SGM looking to meet another guy into sock and foot worship. Must love other men's feet, massaging, sucking, footsie, sock sniffing. Large shoe size a plus but not necessary. ☎3168

THE BIG STEP
I'm married but have been curious. I use all kinds of toys on myself including an 18" rubber dildo, which I took all the way. I'm looking for one or two men to have a three way with me. No handcuffs. I think I can take anything. I've done oral before, and I do swallow. ☎3174

INTENSELY SEXUAL
Bi-chemist seeking some fun. I'm an older Bi-WM with a Bi/Les 26-year-old girlfriend (who sometimes accompanies me). I am intense and driven by the pleasure principle... just do it. I'm looking for diverse people and pleasures. There's always room for new flavors and textures. Adventurous exhibitionist people are a great deal of fun and a great turn on. ☎3175

SAILOR FOR A MATE
I'm looking for fun times. Lets talk. I love beaches, trying new things with people, love to laugh. Looking for someone who is open minded, likes beaches, going out and open to new things. ☎3205

THREESOME OR MORE?
Looking to have sex with more than one partner, 21-40 at the same time, men or women, for some good clean fun. No strings. That's a huge turn on to me. @ FulOfSin ☎3567

TO SERVE AND OBEY
I'm a good looking, smooth, submissive man and looking for my master to serve and obey. I love to be told what to do. @ sam401 ☎3568

MAKE IT BIG
I'm masculine, very good looking, very discreet and horny looking for a well-hung man who is D/D free. @ HOTMOUTH4 ☎3570

LOOKING FOR FUN
I'm a 23 year old SBM 5'5 200lbs, uncut 6", shy, good looking and easy going but it doesn't stop me from getting caught up in the moment. Any age for sex and discreet fun. @ soboredinboston ☎3517

LETS TRY THIS
I'm 28, clean, safe, hot, sexy and living S. of Boston. I just want to get laid with no strings by someone who knows what to do with my cock. ☎3516

WILLING TO TRY?
Just looking for fun and to try different things, especially oral. Must be discreet and can't meet at my place. @ havinfun1970 ☎3515

EXPLORE MY OTHER SIDE
I'm married and looking for experienced top man in E. Bay area to help explore my other side. Fantasize about being a bottom, though I've only done it once. Free days. @ trag5 ☎3496

NAVY VET
Middle-aged WBM looking for someone with same interests and more so I can learn new tricks. I love the outdoors and I'm a Navy Vet that has traveled all over the world. I'm engaged but she knows. ☎3494

COME AND GET IT
I'm a nice guy looking for a man with a sense of humor, open-minded, fun, enjoys physical contact and is passionate like me. ☎3514

ONE MONTH
I am 27 and in town for a month. What better time to have some discreet fun for experimentation. You be someone willing to give and teach and be discreet at the same time. @ hamish500 ☎3086

JUST LOOKING
Like the title says, just looking. Mostly for normal looking and normal acting people. If you're normal looking and acting, then I'm interested. If you think you're "hot" or God's gift to beauty, keep looking. If you're overweight, I don't care. Just be a nice person. @ Th3h4xX54w ☎2641

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

HOT TONGUE WET LIPS
26-year-old bi femme, 42D, nice ass, tight puss, looking for discreet fun. Love to have sex. Love anything that involves another woman. Want to try slave role play at least once, and also other things that involve pleasure and pain. I'm looking for another femme who is sexy and open to trying anything at least once and who is willing be sub and dom when commanded. @ hottoungewetlips ☎3092

NEED IT BADLY
Need someone to be with. Been alone too long. I'm average ht/wt looking for a femme. Need someone who loves to play. Can go on for long period of time. Let me tell you I'm the best and will satisfy you in every way. Let's go. ☎3204

HEDONIST GIRL
I'm a cute, but shy girl, that likes to try anything at least once with other cute girls. I like to be told what to do, punished, anything to make you happy. Your girlfriend/boyfriend can watch or help. @ pinupgrrl ☎3325

CURIOUS LOVIN'
I am a large girl looking for someone who is willing to be open about sex, but with no strings attached. I often fantasize about women and would like to act out those desires in a discreet way. Won't you show me the way? ☎3323

BI-CURIOUS
Sexy beautiful woman seeking a first time adventure with a female age 25-45. I'm very bi-curious and D/D-free of course. I want to explore my other side with you. ☎9636

COUPLES

YOUNG COUPLE
Couple, 32/30, curious - looking for females/couples. We are a professional couple living in MA. We are curious about alternate lifestyle experiences with a lady (30-45) or young couple (30-45). Please be attractive, sexy, outgoing, VERY CLEAN, VERY DISCREET, and fun. ☎3170

THE BI WOMAN IN YOU
Married 10 years, love my wife and she loves me. Recently thought it would be hot to find a sweet, sexy, heated bi or lesbian to share our extremely hot an dirty sex life with. You will be glad u stay in our bed. Looking for sexy fun down to earth lady not shy who can help show my wife why I love to eat her tight wet juicy pussy. Let's show her together. No men or trans please. ☎3171

A PRETTY LADY
We are two working professionals, and have been dating for 5 years. Now we're looking to have fun. Both new to this. Looking for a pretty, in shape woman that would like to have a fun encounter. ☎3180

THREESOMES
A great couple that is looking for a long term relationship with a cute fun guy. Looking for good times, travel and fun sexual times with a really great couple. ☎3181

CURIOUS IN SALEM
Interested in a social non obtrusive meeting with another couple. We are 34 and 35, professional and looking for some passion. We believe that exploring some fantasies will give us that passion. Very committed married couple, basically, looking for some unadulterated fun! Please be a non-aggressive, attractive like couple in the metro Boston area. Minimal experience is a plus. Let's take it slow and then accelerate it! @ curiousmascouple ☎3252

VIRGINS TO ALT. LIFE
But willing and quick to learn. We are a young married couple who love sex and looking to add a little variety in our life. We are D/D free, easy going and looking for a young couple for adult fun. @ LSAL ☎3569

FREE SWING PARTIES
Small intimate home. Couples and single women invited. N/S, casual and sensual atmosphere. ☎8258

SWING WITH US
Attractive married couple looking for a fun couple to help show us the way of the swing-ing world. ☎3500

COUPLE FUN
We are an easy going good looking, d/d free couple, looking for a female for some fun. We like to do pretty much everything, not hardcore partiers but like to have fun. ☎3501

STIMULATE MIND & BODY
We are looking for an intelligent, lefty, sexy femme for urban exploration, exotic travel, extraordinary cuisine, intellectual stimulation and erotic play. ☎3353

TAKE IT SLOW
Life is good, and we are fun to be with. Sexy, sensual, and curious. We are the type of couple who people love to be around because we are always happy and love what life has to offer. We like to take it slow, and build a good relationship with awesome couples and singles we meet. We are looking for singles or couples who are very attractive because we are too. Lets get to know each other and have some fun. ☎3096

BE CUTE
We are a cute couple looking to excite our sex lives even more. I have done it with a girl and loved it. Now my husband would like to join in. We like to go out and have a good time. I am looking for a girl or two girls that are looking for a good time with me and my husband. You have to be small and petite. You should be cute too. ☎3095

SWAPPING
Couple looking for another couple for a good time. We enjoy threesome and group sex. One-on-one sex doesn't interest us much. We prefer (threesomes/swapping/orgies/other). We are looking for open minded people who are looking to get together to having a really good time in and out of the bedroom. ☎3094

BI MARRIED MALE
Seeks couples for intimate fun. I am very oral. Please be age 30 - 55 and desiring a passive male nympho to please them. @ everest1959 ☎3091

NO INHIBITIONS
We are a MC into new things we haven't tried yet. Looking for a female or couple with no inhibitions who want to enjoy casual encounters with no strings attached. @ thricekid ☎2637

EXTRA HANDS PLEASE
Strong, clean, sweet couple seeks discreet NSA encounter with a woman of the same caliber. We're a gothic/alternative fit couple. Be clean, well kept, fit and sweetly shaped. Be interested in both of us. @ canweshare ☎2378

SEXY COUPLE LOOKING FOR FUN
Attractive couple of 40/42, looking for other fun, curious couples to meet and have some adult friendship and oral fun. We are non-smokers, D/D free, love to play! @ ally928 ☎3322

WE LOVE SEX
I am 38, shes 30. We are a fit couple. Im looking for a similar couple. Open mind to go out for a drink and if we hit it off, ready to do anything. ☎3158

EAT ME, BEAT ME
Recently divorced guy looking to live life. Try new things and meet new people. I'm looking for someone who is willing to try new things and teach me some new things also. ☎3319

WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU
Bi-sexual, secure couple in 30's looking for mainly bi-males. We aren't perfect-we are real. @ candkforyou ☎3571

THREESOME FUN?
We are a couple looking for some fun and excitement. We've had a threesome before but not for a while. Must be 22-27. Come party with us, you'll love it. ☎3502

FRIENDLY FUN IN MAINE
Central ME couple looking for friendly, fun, outgoing, uninhibited people. All possibilities negotiable. ☎3495

TV/TS?
I'm a Russell Crowe look-a-like that is new to scene. I'm looking for a TV/CD with a big c*ck that is shaved and into short term relationships. ☎3497

BIG SEXUAL APPETITE?
I'm a good looking guy trying to experiment any TV/CD with breast but still pre-op contact me for good times and more. @ goodtymes2005 ☎3498

COME PLAY WITH ME
I'm a bi-curious male who has lots of disappointments with ladies. because I've always yearned for a gorgeous TV/TS Real breast a +, no butch. ☎3499

STRAIGHT MEN IN RI
Attractive GWM to orally satisfy attractive straight men. Clean d/d free won't be disappointed.Discretion assured. ☎2467

WANTED: 2 STRAIGHT CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
Attractive gay couple wants to orally satisfy 2 attractive straight men. Clean D/D free. Discreet. Satisfaction guaranteed. ☎2940

CAN'T HELP MYSELF
I'm very curious. I've acted on my curiosity only once. I don't know where to start. I'm perfectly normal on the outside, but a freak in the sheets. I find kink cool. I need to explore. I need a passable CD/TV/TS for a real relationship. Not just a hook up. Hook ups are cool. I have nothing against them, but I'm looking for a regular thing so I don't have to look too hard in the future. @ matthew772 ☎3089

QUICK STUDY
Attractive, 36 year old bi-curious male. Ready to explore cross-dressing, shopping, make-up sessions and more. Looking for discreet encounters, role playing, wardrobe sharing with 21-40 year old TV/TS. @ tvjunkie2 ☎3093

NEW TO SCENE
I'm a WM that is into anything that feels good. I'm always looking for good time, to try new things, and make new friends and always ready for anything. Lets have some fun. ☎3326

EDGE OF SEXUAL DESIRE?
Tall, lean, fit, open-mided, married white male who seeks erotic interaction with couples. I can be a passive observer or active participant. Age, race and looks are unimportant. ☎3324

I WORK OUT
I'm looking for a TG or TS. I'm 5'11", 165lbs, athletic, with brown hair and eyes, work out about 5 days a week. Not a lot of experience but open to a lot of things. ☎2699

UNCHARTED TERRITORY
Masculine, handsome, curious WM, 34, seeking a clean, sincere older male (50+) who wants to lay claim to some unchartered territory. Sound interesting? Want to be the first? Cleanliness, discretion, and safety assured and expected. Looks, size, race not important as your sincerity and drive to be the first. ☎3154

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

WILD, WILD, WEST

Brunette Maureen O'Hara-type seeks honest, dependable John Wayne, 37-49! I'm cute, reliable, fun, 45, non-smoker, long brown/brown, plus-sized. Love swalking my dog, classic cinema, N.E. road trips. Let's watch my favorite show, the Shield, together! N. of Boston a plus! ☎752541

MUST LOVE DOGS

46-year-old, SWF, brown eyes, long red hair, freckles, two dogs- they are easier than children. I like to stay home and watch TV, read books, play cards, social drinker, home body, like to cook for family and friends. Love the cold weather. I prefer someone 48-60, non-drinker, must accept smoking and not married. ☎776603

EMBRACE MY WORLD

With my intense creativity and desire to keep abreast of the culture, I can turn someone's life around. Bring flowers, your personal poetry, and your honesty to this 23 yr old's doorstep. Look into my wide brown eyes and fall in love. ☎758204

SOUL OF AN ARTIST

My life revolves around finding beauty in every nook and cranny. 29, brown hair, brown eyes, willowy and passionate. I love graphic design,' photography, nature, and am looking to share my interests. Be tall, understanding, and come ice skating w/ me. ☎758224

LIVE MUSIC FAN

SWF, 43, loves going out to hear live music, all types. Seeking cynically sexy guy, 36-46.☎770729 @ Take_Me_Out

RUNS WITH SCISSORS

DWF, 60s, iconoclast interested in theatre, movies, outdoors, art, spirituality. Seeking emotionally aware, politically liberal, humorous man withsimilar interests. Mensch a plus. ☎926274

A GREAT CATCH

A sweet girl looking for a young, handsome man. Br/Br, medium build, 30, SWF, Irish-Italian-Indian. I love going out to eat, movies, walks on thebeach, and cooking. ☎765329

BEAUTIFUL BLONDE

very Sincere, caring, and kind. Seeking honest, sincere, dependable, loyal, decent man, 50-65. Do you exist? You will not regret answering this ad. thank you. ☎476812

LIFE IS A JOURNEY...

not a guided tour! There is no "reset button." Cute, passionate WIWF, seeks romantic gentleman, 53+, to share the trip.☎868174

NEW LOOK. NEW LOVE

Do blondes really have more fun? Former redhead, 50s, 5'8", blue-eyed, witty, kind, compassionate, loves cooking, jazz, sports, movies, the realdeal. Looking for honest, tall, street-savvy SBM, 49-55. ☎220367

SPARKLING EYES?

I'm 38, happy with myself inside out, relaxed, highly educated, fit, mature, and most importantly, very good-humored. I've been longing for a relaxednight with good company for an open-minded conversation. Please don't be prudish, just respectful. ☎778517 @ luck1212

CAPTAIN OF THE SQUAD

I'm 22, brown hair, blue eyes, and a body that's been sculpted from years of cheerleading. I love watching sports with a group of friends at the local bar, but I can also be found shopping on Newbury Street. Have a good, honest heart! ☎758211

MISS ME?

I'm 39, hard working, fun loving, sensual woman with tight curves. I'm honest, reliable, independent, but love to be spoiled. I'm looking for someonewith the same qualities. Contact me and we'll take it from there! ☎781886 @ msme05

SHORT TIME ONLY

I am a 25yr old German exchange student, would love to have a tour guide! I need a man who will show me the clubs, sights of Boston. I'm cute, a sexy dresser, and I get into limos w/ strangers! ☎769675

SEEKING MR. RIGHT

SBF, 46-years-old, height/weight proportionate. Interests: exploring New England cities and towns, reading, museums, music, and dining in/out. Seeking SBM, 47-52, D/D free, non-smoker, who believes in a one-on-one relationship who shares the same interests. ☎765152

BETTER AND BETTER

SWF, 46, 5'5", 149lbs, N/D, smoker, red/brown, very light-complected, has 2 dogs, likes to read, write, cook for friends, seeks SWM, 48-54, forwonderful relationship. ☎756341

PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

I'm a 23-year-old SWF with no children. I'm a pre-school teacher and I love what I do. I love to hang out with my friends and go out and drink occasionally. I'm just living life and having fun. ☎779460 @ jaime2131

BAYWATCH BABE

Blonde, green-eyed, and a burst of fun. I'm 22 with determination, tenacity, and some lofty career goals, but I'll make it. I just need a guy who's confident and secure to complete my life. Good attitude and positive outlook a must! ☎758208

SEARCHING SOULMATE

SWF, 20, 5'6', 110lbs, blonde/blue, R&B singer, likes writing music, Rap. Searching my soulmate, 20-30, who believes in real love, loyalty, honesty,honors one another, for dating possible LTR. ☎775712

CLASS CLOWN

I'm 38, SWF, love the outdoors, to bike, swim, hike, and snowboard but sometimes I would rather just lie in bed with my guy. I can be serious but llove to end conversations with a laugh. ☎777032 @ cassadyj

I'VE GOT IT ALL

Healthy, active, athletic SWF, 41, financially secure, enjoys family and friends, hoping to meet SM, 47-48, to have fun, date, enjoy adventures,possible LTR. ☎772664 @ summers_in_rangoon

ALMOST TOO MUCH

Looking for a strong woman who can keep you happy on all levels? It's me! I'm sassy, smart, 5'5", cuvy, and ready to show you a good time. 22, with adesire to get my MBA. Gimme a buzz. ☎769727

GIGGLES GALORE

Curly black hair, long lashes and brown eyes, I'm a petite package of laughs. I'm 22, I love puppies and family is very important to me. I'm looking for a strong, muscular guy who will love and treat me well. Must be a puppy lover too! ☎758212

WALK THE WALK

I'm tight, taut, and toned and ready for you. I'm 26with long black hair and brown eyes. I aspire to open my own bakery some day, but for right now,I'm working hard and looking for the right guy! ☎769746

SMART, PRETTY, CUTE

DWF, 46, 5'3", 116lbs. in great shape, no children, former racquetball instructor, N/S, social drinker, homeowner, financially/emotionally secure,seeks intelligent, honest, fit WM, 40-55, N/S, ☎768051

MUST LOVE KIDS

I'm a professional nanny and love children so whomever I date needs to be passionate about the welfare of kids. 25, brown hair, blue eyes. Love working with charitable organizations, writing fiction, and long distance running. Let's meet! ☎758201

ESCARGOT

Unconventional, very attractive SJF, mid-50s, in great shape, artist/businesswoman, with eclectic city interests seeks nonugly, fun/serious, aesthetically aware city man for whatever chemistry dictates. Greater Boston area please. ☎550612

LOOKING 4 MR. RIGHT

SWF, 27, occasional smoker, seeking serious SM, 24-35, for 50/50 relationship, possible LTR.☎782895 @ kiockli26

DIRECT DARLING

With my wide eyes and red hair, you'll know you've found someone special. I love nature hikes and skiing. One of the most important things about a partner is how he treats other people. Rude guys need not apply! ☎758214

BEAUTIFUL BLONDE...

Very Sincere, caring, and kind. Seeking honest, sincere, dependable, loyal, decent man, 50-65. Do you exist? You will not regret answering this ad. Thank you. ☎263836

BELLE BEAUTY

I'm from S. Carolina, but I'm going to college in Boston, studying PR. I have long blond hair and striking blue eyes. I like a man who can make me laugh. Still doing the bar seen, but always willing to try something new. ☎758216

SINCERELY SWEETLY ME

Here's a dog-lover who will charm you with her honesty and loyalty. I'm 33, brown eyes, black hair, and a penchant for poetry. As a engineer, I'm alogical scientist, but I know how to let my hair down! ☎743995

WOULD YOU DARE?

Quirky, groovy female, 49, with a 35-year-old mentality and figure, 5'4", curvy figure, loves Harleys, blues, sci-fi. Seeks SM with wild sense ofhumor, willing to pick me up on his mean motor scooter. Watch the moonlight shimmer in my jade mermaid eyes. Tattoos/long hair a+. ☎937174

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Active, sun-worshiping, windsurfing Citron seeks SF for relaxing poolside, walks along the shore, and sharing lotion. Must be tan.

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Attractive, salsa-dancing, sunglasses-at-night-wearing Mandrin looking for serious relationship (between the hours of 1am–5am). No morning people.

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Mysterious, alluring, single Apeach, likes body language to do the talking and plays hard to get. In fact, why don't you just go ahead and find me.

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Single, lounge-loving, anti-disco Vanilia seeks cool customer for evenings spent lounging at home or lounging at, say, a lounge or something. No Hawaiian shirts.

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SEEKING SECOND CHANCE

SWF, 41, sincere, shy at first but funny once I get to know you. Looking for SWM, 45-48, for dating, spending quiet times together, maybe more. ☎784680 @ labchick

FORTUNE COOKIE FUTURE

I'm 35, looking for some good local music. My fortune cookie held this gem, "You are never given a dream without also being the power to make it true"Have you had any good fortune cookies lately? Lets chat. ☎779346 @ DaVille

SWEET AS PIE

Blond hair, blue eyes, petite and curvaceous figure. I'm known around the office for being kind, sweet, and everyone's psychologist. I would love to meet someone who could help me find balance in life. ☎758220

CUTE/WITTY

SBPF, 32, 5'2", straight auburn hair, beautiful big brown eyes, caramel complexion, college-educated, seeking SWPM, 30-37, dark hair/eyes, thinathletic build, clean cut, great smile, for romance. ☎766593 @ destined4luv2005

SEEKING ROMANTIC GUY

DWPF, 59, long hair, seeks outgoing, compatible, attractive, fun gentleman,60-75, who is educated, financially/emotionally secure, and has manyinterests! ☎870015

POWERHOUSE

I'm a strong woman with strong convictions so no wimps! I'm 5'9, with beautiful auburn hair and a straightforward attitude that let's everyone know the truth. I don't lie, so you shouldn't either. Let's make a date. ☎758221

STOP, LOOK, & LISTEN...

to this vivacious senior, Northwood area, who loves the beach, movies, and quiet times. Sincere gentleman wanted 70-75, maybe this is you if so please call. ☎427201

METRO WEST

Pretty DWF, 49, N/S, college-educated, business owner, physically fit, energetic, sense-of-humor, likes beach, cooking, bicycling, ice-skating,skiing, taking golf lessons, looking for D/SWM, 47-60, financially secure, physically fit, w/SOH, etc. ☎476267

LIVING

Blonde, SWF, late 50s, slim, 5'5", outgoing, looking for a loving an honest, outgoing man who enjoys dining, dancing, travel, movies. North Shorearea. ☎782384

CUTE RUSSIAN

DWF, 33, 5'2", 115lbs. fun-loving, good sense of humor, loves cooking, travel, reading, dancing, the beach, family-oriented, with 11-year-old son.Seeking serious relationship with someone to share life's adventures. ☎754316

LOOKING FOR SOME FUN

Easygoing adventuerous, spontaneous SWF, 21, SOH, goofy, crazy, carefree, loves going out, beaches, dancing, movies, pool, horseback riding, travelseeking SM, 21 to 29. ☎782945 @ ILoveTaboo84

CUTE AND CURIOUS

SWF, 27, outgoing and shy all at the same time, prefer dinner and drinks, love the Pats and Red Sox, reading, nature, seeking SWM, 25-37,compassionate, honest, sensitive, tall, handsome. ☎769520 @ Aeo1021

WARM HEART

DWF, 42, N/S, mother of 3, enjoys dining out, dancing, movies, walks on the beach, seeks SWM, 40 to 49, who enjoys the outdoors.☎764085

BEAUTIFUL PACKACE.

nice, caring person looking for a honest, hard working, affectionate, compassionate good looking but most importantly good inside his heart n soul. I love the beach , camping, and swimming ☎761334

I AM EASY...

to talk to and to get along with. SWF, 36, H/W proportionate, fit, N/S, works in customer service, enjoys thriller and comedy films. Seeking WM,35-45, for LTR. ☎764150

NEW YORK CITY GIRL

Now living in Cambridge. Attractive DJF, 41, seeking male, 40-65, who loves theatre, movies, live music and romantic dinners as much as I do.☎221948

LOVES TO PLAY

SF, 34, loves sporting events, concerts, traveling, cooking, looking for a man, 34-45, who is funny and full of energy.☎756748 @ SuperGeeGee

BOOK JUNKIE

Dichotomous attractive curvy brunette, 23, 5'8", artistic singer songwriter with moral leanings (most of the time!). Seeking a true gentleman with acreative flair 23-30 who will accompany me to the bar on saturday night, laugh and dance, cuddle and kiss (I like it slow) and take me to church on Sunday where I like the teachings but am not a Christian. Let's grab tea and talk. ☎769782

ADVENTUROUS

Very attractive, fun-loving SWF, 44, seeks SW/BM, 42-55, who knows how to respect and treat a woman, and is a lover of the arts, theater, museums,literature, and travel. ☎741723 @ Knittykitty2005

SEEKING SOULMATE

Sexy, single, Jewish female, 37, searching for the love of my life. Multiple interests include reading, cooking, listening to music. So what are youwaiting for? Call me now! I hope you're out there somewhere. ☎537768

WILD CHILD

bilingual (English/Spanish), eccentric, leftist, humanitarian, passionate, voluptuous woman, 33, who loves conversing, traveling, international film,documentaries, poetry, self-discovery, nature, and laughing, seeks creative, artistic man of any race, 29-45, to ignite her imagination over candlelight and explore life's mysteries. ☎712531

SUMMER FUN

SWF, young looking 52-year old, 5'5", slim, hazel eyes, light brown hair, enjoys lives simplicities and truths, values ones inner spirit, integrity, light-heartedness, kindness and friendship. Looking for the same in a man, 40-55, who is attractive, neat-looking, slim to average build. ☎743404

I AM WHO I AM

SWF, looking for someone who is honest and sincere, fun with a great sense of humor, SWM, 38-48 would be nice a relatively close to Quincy. work in the medical field and love my work. ☎669707

LETS GO SAILING

I am a petite, 33-year-old Eurasian female, looking for a mature man 28-35 that appreciates the outdoors, reading, and watching foreign movies. Looking for someone who is fun to be with and a possible romance. ☎751456

INSPIRE THIS ARTIST!

I am an artsy, alternative, dynamic chick who is looking for a passionate, dark-haired man with whom to fall in love! Please enjoy traveling, steak, and dogs! Tattoos are also a bonus! ☎586023

ADVENTURESS

Want to go Patagonia? Denali ? Eyeing both for my next trek. Closer to home, this pretty, Ivy League educator, SWF, 42, loves playing the fiddle,sushi, Bach, NY Times, libraries, poetry, gardening, shooting hoops, cribbage, tenderness. Hellbent on the real thing with a sweet, smart man. ☎503197

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2_Record a voicemail greeting

3_Retrieve your messages – we'll let you know when new ones have arrived!

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5_Need help? For Customer Service call Micah **1.800.310.5995**

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M - Male | **F** - Female | **S** - Single | **D** - Divorced | **WI** - Widowed | **G** - Gay | **Bi** - Bisexual | **W** - White | **B** - African-American/Black | **H** - Hispanic | **A** - Asian | **J** - Jewish | **C** - Christian | **D/D - free** - Drug + Disease Free | **WTML** - Would Like To Meet

WARM, STRONG SOUTHERN
Wanted: A best friend (and possible life partner) who loves life and has courage to fight both for himself/loved ones and for social transformation. You are fit, aged 60-75, height 5'8"-6:2", pleased with yourself, playful, and adventurous. ☎732491

LOVELY, LAID-BACK
There's nothing better than hearing the alarm clock ring, realizing it's Saturday, and hitting the snooze button for all it's worth! If you enjoy lazy days, let's meet! I'm 39, blue eyes, brown hair, and a ton of fun!☎743991

BE MY FRIEND
SHF, 39, N/S, likes to dine out, see movies, travel, seeks SHM, 40-49, N/S, who speaks Spanish, for friendship first. ☎751910

SINGLE AGAIN
WF, 46, coming out of a long-term relationship, open-minded liberal, looking for fun, like-minded man, 33-60. ☎508375

TRUE COLORS
Down-to-earth SWF, 44, 5'5", non-smoker, artist, enjoys movies, music, dining out, and beach-walking. Seeking laid-back, easy-going SWM, 35-60,non-smoker, for casual dating, possible long-term relationship. Honesty a must! ☎257882

BROWN-EYED GIRL
Pretty blonde, 50, 5'6", security guard, degree in bio-chemistry (getting back into that field), interests include classical music, knitting,embroidery, videos, chatting with friends. Searching for intelligent man, 48-60. ☎270915

ECLECTIC TASTES
Attractive female, 33, seeks sincere mature male to explore life with. Open minded, ambitious, smart, compassionate, honest and stable describes us.Love of the city and countryside. Open for a long-term relationship. Race and age open. ☎560602

YOU + ME = LUV?
I am an interesting, vivacious young woman with a love of biking, hiking, and staying in shape... I would love to meet a guy who could be my gym partner! I love Italian food! ☎586030

DO YOU DROOL...
over Italian food? SBF, 38, exotic eyes, attractive, non-smoker, with son, special education behavior analyst, seeks attractive, funny, laid-back WM,30-45, non-smoker, for friendship, possible romance. ☎609523

IS IT TIME?
Very attractive female, seeks male, 30+, race open, who knows he's ready for a sweet, loving, nurturing, healthy, mature relationship combined withhumor, passion, sparks, and the everlasting exploration of life. ☎628552

DO MY OPPOSITES ATTRACT?
Slim, pretty SWF, 39, 5'6", 115lbs, brown/brown, long hair, long legs, seeks mature, fit, fun S/DM, 35-45ish, who wants to experience a littlevariety! ☎656018

TOO MUCH TO HANDLE
Are you handsome and cynical? Is your idea of the perfect day going hiking, showering, making romance, then grabbing dinner? Do you like young women who are determined with an appetite for adventure? If this is you, then come find me! ☎663809

SEEK A QUALITY MAN
SAF, I enjoy traveling, reading, collecting, and I value a sense of humor, a strong work ethic, following a healthy life style. Looking for a mature, reliable, successful man... ☎675692

ATTRACTIVE NURSE
Looking for my prince.....someone who knows who he is and what he wants.....someone that is reliable, trustworthy.....more later. ☎716014

STEAL A SMOOCH
Here is the girl you've been looking for- friendly, funny, and even loves kids! (I'm 25, so kids are still far in the future!) I'm caring andadventurous, w/ green eyes and brown hair. Let's hit the town together! ☎750413

DOCTOR IS IN
I'm a jazzy, successful MD, but I'm missing one thing- someone with whom I can laugh! I love art movies, jazz cafes, and dinners with family. Yup, I'm a traditional girl. Will you be my old-fashioned guy? ☎750420

WANTED: 1 GOOD MAN
With one or two (good) kids; for friend and housemate-stylier renter. (Partner-type relationship not excluded.) By youthful energetic woman, 53. non-smoker. Preferably he cooks, plays piano, and handles chainsaw adroitly, but Intelligent, ethical, and good sense of humor would be very good. ☎705164

COME & GET ME!
Hi! I'm new to the Boston area... just moved here and will be starting grad school in the fall. Looking to meet some new people, make some friends, and maybe even (if I'm lucky) find someone special. ☎671226

MS. MIDNIGHT
you: Hot and Heavy Thursday at Avalon Night Club. wearing: Red Sox hat, blue jeans, and blue button up shirt. You walked by and you smelled incredible. All I can think about is that I need to meet you. ☎682512

ARE WE THERE YET
I'm talking about the love! I am a cute, 29year old girl who is looking for a hitchhiker with whom to travel on this road of life. Look like JamesDean, don't be mean, and I'll be your queen! ☎706832

DETERMINED DAME
I'm 24, a cute petite package of fun, with black hair, brown eyes. I have a lot of determination and I'm ready to take on whatever life has to give.Of course, I could always use a partner in crime! ☎707730

EASY GOING DUDES
I'm tired of all of the drama of dating and I'm looking for a low-maintenance, sweetheart of a guy with whom to spend time. I'm a busy chick with things to do, but I'll slow down for the right guy! ☎707869

FORTUNE COOKIE CUTIE
My perfect Saturday would be spent watching HBO On Demand and then ordering Chinese food with my perfect partner. I'm tall, thin, and looking for an honest guy with whom to eat some crab rangoon. ☎707910

EVERY SPRINKLE FOUND
I love the Family Guy, so my perfect guy would be like Peter Griffin- blissfully naive, funny to watch, with a good heart. I love sarcasm, spending time with friends, and watching baseball. Call this dream girl! ☎707896

BANANA SPLIT
I'm a friendly, warm, and compassionate social worker who is looking for love in between her cases. I love sharing sundaes, (one bowl, two spoons, and lots of romantic eye contact!) Give me a chance and you won't be sad. ☎707936

GIMME A RANGER
I want a guy with a Texas-country style attitude who will be my cowboy. Ride off with me into the sunset and save me when I've been tied to the railroads tracks by Dick Dastardly! You won't be disappointed! ☎707975

SNOW WHITE
With my dark brown hair, brown eyes, and light complexion, my friends say I resemble Snow White. I've dated a few dwarves, but now I'm looking for my Prince Charming. I love to stay active. Be liberal! ☎707982

ONCORD (NH) CUTIE
Very pretty DWF, 69, 5'7", average weight, very young-looking, N/S, long blonde/blue, great personality, relocatable for love, seeks SM, 68-73, N/S,5'11"-6'2", light drinker, for LTR. ☎980178

PRETTY WOMAN
SWF, 50, 5'5", 140lbs, enjoys cooking, bird-watching. Seeking educated SWM, 50-71, for romance leading to LTR. Preferably North Shore area. ☎773142

GOLDEN GIRL
Romantic, slim, blonde SWF, young-40s, enjoys music, beaches, dining out, romance. Seeking attractive, in shape S/DWM, 40-52, medium-athletic build,for serious, romantic relationship. ☎472769

REAL - NO GAMES
DWF BBW 54out of the dating scene for a while, seeking a companion, friend and lover. I am attractive, have a mind, and a great sense of humor. ☎742972

CLEAN LIVIN' COOK
Hello all of you respectable gentlemen! Come visit my kitchen and you'll never want to leave. By day, I'm a caterer, but by night, I am a free-spirited, fun-loving girl who can make you happy! ☎707959

WORKING IN THE LAB
I was working in the lab, late one night. I'm a chemical engineer who loves with might. I was thinking I need someone with whom to have fun. Now you're reading my ad- could you be the one? ☎708016

LOVELY TIMES IN RI
I'm living in Rhode Island and looking for a love. I've got brown hair, brown eyes, and I'm light as a dove. At school I teach, then walk the beach. Come be my blessing from above! ☎708026

GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE
Life should be like a glass of champagne- light, bubbly, and always enjoyed with good friends! I'm a bouncy, giggly, 32yr old who loves to runthrough the city streets. If you've got jogging shoes, give me a call! ☎712841

DE LOVELY MARIE
This black Caribbean woman is looking for a loving relationship. If you're 45-55, a non-smoker, drug-free, then you might be for me. Let's meet, go to the movies, and then cruise around the world! ☎712870

HILARIOUS HUNNIE
Twenty-two, blue eyes, brown hair, a cute petite physique, and I'll keep you and your friends rolling the aisles with my quirky sense of humor! My secret: I love being spooned in my sleep! ☎712887

SUNSHINE OF MY LIFE
I'm looking for a man who has a great sense of humor and can dance in the dark with me to the sounds of Stevie Wonder. This firecracker is seeking her spark. Let's make magic! ☎707880

SHAPELY YOUNG 65 GEMINI
DWF, 5'4", 118lbs, SOH, who enjoys dancing, gambling, fishing, pool, biking. Seeking SWM, 50-65, with similar interests, for friendship maybe more. All replies answered. ☎245650

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

INNER ATHLETE
There's nothing better than spending a summer night with a great girl at a baseball game and I'm looking for that sports fan. Attractive, 35, brown hair, mischievous brown eyes, and a sarcastic sense of humor. Let's find romance at Fenway! ☎758207

A GREAT CATCH
SWM, 42, average build, brown/blue, great personality. Hobbies are motorcycling, singing, very outgoing- like all kinds of things. Looking for anattractive female, any age, to basically have a friendship, date, where ever it may go! Lets get together, it might be great! ☎777599

CHAT OVER CHAMPAGNE
I love hitting the clubs, running through the city streets, and treating my special lady to everything she deserves and more. Handsome Latin lover, 32, dark and mysterious good looks. I need a girl who can keep up with me and love who I am. ☎758205

NO GAMES
I'm a 31-year-old WM that occasionally smokes. I'm seeking a woman 25-40 that knows what she wants. Also someone who stays in shape and likes to play sports, especially one on one. Dont be shy. ☎780147 @ jimmy777

PURE AND EASY
SWM, 41, black/brown, 6', 210lbs, love music, movies, concerts, outdoor festivals, playing guitar, no children. Still believe in dreams. Looking forSF, non-smoker for conversation and fun. ☎782490

I'M DIFFERENT
To the point SWM, 40, who speaks his mind, has a wild side and knows there is a time and place for that side seeks SF, 25-50, who wishes to have funand let herself go. ☎777584 @ shmikes

LOVE OF MY HEART
I'm 6'4", with broad shoulders and a stern face, but inside my chest beats the heart of a teddy bear. I'll sing to you, write you poetry, and shower you with hugs. Just keep my sensitive side a secret! ☎769710

MR. BRIGHTSIDE
Honest, caring, trustworthy, SWM, 30, likes dining out, movies, sporting events, looking for SF, 24-26, for fun and to enjoy life with. ☎770972 @ mrbrightside

BACK HOME IN BOSTON
SWM, 45, 5'10 160lbs good shape and good looking, smoker. I'm from South of Boston and seeking a friend or maybe more. I love skiing in the winter,beach and boating in the summer. I love to enjoy life. ☎767641

LARGE BUT HANDSOME WM
Soon to be DWM, 51, 5'10", overweight, financially stable, seeks female, 40-55, for dinner, jazz, Foxwoods, quiet times, and Sunday drives. You benon-smoker, non drinking, dog-lover preferred. I'm honest, clean, down-to-earth, a good cook, not a sports nut, enjoys exploring my computer. ☎616677

DINNER IN NORTH END
with friends and finish the night at The Roxy. This isn't every night of course, but I do love to dance and dine out. I am an easy going, laughable, joyous 32-year-old male with black/grey hair and brown eyes. I have been called loyal almost to a fault. Would like to find a woman who is similar, who is not too serious, because I certainly am not. ☎791099

LOOK HERE
WM seeking SWF. I'm 31Brown/Brown, large frame, honest, and fun-loving. Seeking same in a lady. ☎767376

I'LL PENCIL YOU IN
Comic artist seeks a chick who doesn't mind my sketches, can fit into the plotline of my life, and who will color my world. I'm 23, curly brown hair, and thoughtful brown eyes. I'm 5'7 and love going to concerts and creating works of art. ☎758209

JMR. GOOD GUY
Hard working SWM, N/S, seeking SF, 39-51 for going out dining together, weekend getaways, camping under the stars. All work and no play makes for a boring life. ☎780685 @ handeman

HONESTY'S MY POLICY
I'm sick and tired of girls without brains. Acting ditzy is a huge turn-off for me. I'm 28, blond hair, blue eyes, and will give anything to meet a confident and intelligent girl. I'm straightforward, don't have time to sweat the small stuff. Call me. ☎758223

ANY VERSATILE LADIES?
Quincy area, SWM, 31, 6' 0", average build, non-smoker, seeks a versatile lady that is fun and real, 27-35, non-smoker. I like all kinds of movie,except horror, like going out playing pool, going for a walk, I'm very versatile. ☎779042

QUIET SWEETNESS
Down to earth, handsome, intense drama free SBM, 30, seeking SF, 18-36. Nothing is sexier than a woman who knows what she wants and goes for it. ☎770022 @ foratime

MR. SHY/QUIET
Even thought I come across as a little shy, there's a lot to me. I love camping, backpacking, and would love to have a girl to travel with. I'm 5'9, brown eyes, brown hair, and a quirky sense of humor. Can you keep up w/ me? ☎758203

CHIVALROUS MAN
Black-French-italian male, in Boston area, 5'11, 175lbs, slim athletic physique. Love the simple things in life. Looking for a down to earth woman that can keep it real. I believe in full respect for a woman. Chivalry is still alive. ☎779620

NO GAMES!
Single w male searching for woman who loves to laugh. Looking for someone 25to 35 with good sense of humor and knows what she wants out of life,take the time to answer and you wont be disappointed. ☎765840

NO COMMITMENT
WPM, 49, handsome, outgoing and playful. Seek fun-loving female for fun times. ☎233754

WORLD TRAVELER
35-year-old musician, surfer and web-slinger. My career is in software sales and is very lucrative but flexible which allows me to travel internationally as a professional musician. I am non-judgemental but clear about what I want in life. ☎774813 @ SonikSurfer

TEDDY BEAR
Tall, square jaw, handsome features, early 40's and ready to find a fun friend/girlfriend. I'm open-minded, but traditional. I still open doors for women and call them for first dates. If you're seeking a gentleman, look no further. ☎758213

YOUNG AT HEART
WM, 36, reserved, very reliable, seeks pony-tailed WF companion for day trips to the Cape and other fun things on a budget: Fairs, flea markets, W.Newton Cinema, local and national live music. ☎772850

TOM & CHRISTINE

OH, BABY?

A note from Tom's agenda book: Dear God, these weekends are killing me. I went on a date Saturday with a chick I've been seeing for about three weeks. I wanted to impress her, so I took her to Chili's. No one told me it was "Family Night." Every table had a screaming child under seven at it, sending my date into baby mode. She began pondering what "our kids" would look like. Where do I find these crazies? I wonder how Christine would handle these inappropriate procreation ponderings?

YOUR DATE STARTS DISCUSSING KIDS BEFORE THE FIFTH DATE. WHAT DO YOU DO?

TOM_ I was dumbfounded. I couldn't even remember the chick's last name and she was talking gene pools. I told her to stop the conversation right there. ***Translation: Actually, I told her I was sterile due to a drunken peeing accident. She apologized and began flirting with the busboy.*** **CHRISTINE_ I'm always flattered when a boyfriend brings up children. It shows that he is thinking about a future with me, so I just let him continue.** ***Translation: In reality, no one wants to have kids with me. I tried to sell my eggs, but even the clinic denied me.***

WHEN YOUR DATE ASKS IF YOU LIKE CHILDREN, HOW DO YOU REPLY?

TOM_ I tell her the truth: kids are sniveling, money-grubbing brats. They eat things off the floor, cry when they don't get their way, and defecate at inopportune times. ***Translation: Now that I think about it, my present roommates do the same thing. Maybe kids wouldn't be so bad.*** **CHRISTINE_ I can't wait to have kids, and I tell everyone so. I had one special guy in my life and we discussed children. I thought he was the one – it was all very romantic.** ***Translation: The guy was my quadriplegic date who had no choice but to listen to me blab on about kids. I went through a period where I trolled the hospital halls for possible husbands. There's nothing wrong with a captive audience, right?***

WHAT DO YOU PICTURE YOUR CHILDREN TO LOOK LIKE/BE LIKE?

TOM_ Any kid of mine would be good looking and a huge baseball fan. No kid of mine will do theater, music, or any of those frou-frou things that some kids do. My son will be a man's man and there will be no daughters. I don't want to have to worry about teen pregnancy. ***Translation: I read in a supermarket tabloid that if my future wife eats specific foods, I'm guaranteed to have a son. I also read about the boy who looks like a bat and lives in a cave.*** **CHRISTINE_ I think my children would be average looking with huge hearts. I'd let them be whoever they want to be and I'd encourage them in all of their interests.** ***Translation: Ugly, ugly children are in my future. My uterus is a fertile ground for the creation of the next Toxic Avenger.***

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M - Male | F - Female | S - Single | D - Divorced | Wi - Widowed | G - Gay | Bi - Bisexual | W - White | B - African-American/Black | H - Hispanic | A - Asian | J - Jewish | C - Christian | D/D - free - Drug + Disease Free | WTML - Would Like To Meet

LIFE IS WAY TOO SHORT
Looking for a friend, lover and more. I am a passionate 38-year-old man looking for a passionate woman. Looks are not as important as personality. There has to be more to life than this. I'm looking forward to meeting you. ☎771134 @ manlbbw

TRUE GENTLEMAN
5'8M, 53, 5' 6", average build, Gemini, smoker, seeks AF, 31 to 52, for long-term relationship.☎763203

SHOW ME SITES
I'm getting my PhD and living in Cambridge, but I'm originally from Austria. I need a fun, vivacious woman to show me around the city and let me into her heart. Communication is key in a relationship, so be free w/ emotions. ☎758215

BORED IN BOSTON
Tall, striking, athletic, intelligent, funny, unique SWM, 36, seeks female partner in crime, for laughing, learning, and adventure.☎268061

NEW TO BOSTON
Looking for a quality woman for a stand-up guy. 24, scholar, athlete, musician, visionary, romantic, new to Boston and looking to meet the rightperson. I'm looking for something that has potential to grow into a serious relationship without games. ☎778959 @ soxskins4life

ARE YOU READY?
If you are looking for a guy that's handsome, never been married, down to earth, loyal, dependable, non-smoker, affectionate, supportive and intelligent with too many interests to list, well, if you are, this SWM, 44, just out of a long-term relationship 14 months ago, is now available fora curvy and fit woman for long-term relationship. Please be ready for the time of your life! ☎239948

ROCK CONCERTS
30 years old, very funny, 5'4", 130lbs with blue eyes. I like indie films, Rancid and Drop Kick Murphy's, along with parks. Very spontaneous and up for anything. Got any ideas? Be around my height and weight. ☎736725

LOOKING TO SHARE
Ever gone to a play/concert, hiked in the White Mountains, walked along the beach, or argued endlessly with yourself and thought gee I should be sharing this someone? I'm 36, a computer professional. Hobbies include photograpy, tennis and skiing.☎783322 @ uteem2ecln

WEST SEEKS EAST
Yen in search of yang or maybe a fellow yen. SWM looking for Asian woman, 25-35, slender, sensual, cat-like, intelligent, witty, and happily employed. I'm a long haired bundle of contradictions, honest, affectionate, quietly passionate, dollar poor but spiritually and culturally rich. ☎666017

22, and I just got back from many years in a different hemisphere. I'm a musician into rock, jazz, funk, and original music from the soul. Im looking for a relationship based on the moments and relationships that we share. ☎781172 @ jo21

BLACK MAN FOR LOVE
Mate in his 30s, non-smoker, 6', 190lbs, romantic, good-looking, honest, sincere, caring, D/D-free, occasional drinker. Seeking hot, attractive,romantic, healthy, SB/WF, 20-50, for stable loving and fitting relationship. I'd like to take you out tonight. ☎215735

SHOW YOURS
I'll show mine. SWM, 49, tall, slim, smooth, searching for a petite, white or latin female, who is bubbly, has a sense of humor, open-minded, playful.Enjoys dining, walks the beach, Patriots, NASCAR, and evenings at home. ☎532222

MISSING SOMETHING
I'm 27and just looking for something that I have been missing in my life. I'm a busy person thats always on the move but sometimes you just have toslow down and enjoy life. Perhaps you will join me? ☎780862 @ soxguy

AFRO BLUES
5BM, handsome, intelligent, artistic, with good sense of humor seeks SW of color, attractive, in good shape, non-smoker, tall, in her 30s, for fun,romance and adventure. ☎595036

PASSENGER WANTED
1971, Scorpio, very clean, well-maintained, low mileage, SWM seeks honest, well put together, sexy, SWF for Harley riding adventures around Portland area. Searching for Ms. Right Road. ☎774191

DEEP MALE
When two people are able to touch open-hearted truth and communion, ecstasy is. WPM, 50, 5'6", seeks curvaceous, fit, ra, radiant female 34-50 forintimate partnership, race open. Lets meet and see if we can play. ☎651165

LETS GIVE IT A TRY
Scientists say we only use 10% of our brain, I say we only use 10% of our hearts. 315WM in Boston looking to meet new people for dating and havingfun. ☎780766 @ kaya26

BACH + IMMORTALITY...
and science! Create love with one from which there springs wide-love for all? Tender, passionate WM, 50s, tall, slim, enjoys seashores, forests, literature, film, PBS/NPR. Mom/grandmom ok, co-parenting or us alone ok. Idealistic, natural, trim optimist. please grace my arm. ☎470424

THE SLEEPER AWAKES
47-year-old, DJM, instructor, published writer, self-taught, painter, divorced and looking for a new world missed before. A title suggested by H.G. Wells came to mind, "As The Sleeper Awakes", I feel like I've found myself in a brave new future... ☎792439 @ LanneyBudd

WORKS GOOD WITH HANDS
Carpenter, 45, (look much younger), 5'10", ht/wt proportionate, divorced and children have flown the coop, looking to meet a normal woman, 30-45, todate, leading to long-term relationship. P.S. Must enjoy back rubs, foot rubs, leg massages and intimacy. Also dining, dancing, camping, beaches, and movies. ☎616411

GENTLEMAN AVAILABLE
SWM, 49, 6'1", at peace with self, more concerned with who a woman is on the inside. I have no children, but love them. Wide variety of interests andwilling to share with someone special. Old-fashioned values, serious replies please. ☎621374

LIKE TO SHARE...
thoughts, feelings, intimacy. SWM, 49, shares "I love you" with family and friends, seeking compassionate, smart, emotionallly stable, attractive SF35-40, for relationship not fantasy, games or for socail status. ☎782754 @ poeticomic

DATE NEEDED-CONCERT
Ladies- I am going to Motley Crue in New Hampshire on Aug 21and need a date. I am a SWM, 34, and the night will be 101% on me. If interested, dropme a line. ☎694502

MEN SEEKING MEN

OUTDOORSY GUY
Things that i love: bike riding, beach going, movies, going out to eat, and walking. Looking for someone in their 30s or 40s who's into health andfitness, having fun, and who is compassionate. I am 55, look 45, am 5'5 with sandy brown hair and blue/green eyes. ☎692926

CREST KID
The first thing you'll notice about me is my perfect smile. 25, brown hair, brown eyes, and a body you just want to hold close. I need someone who ischaritable and loves freckles! Call me soon! ☎769734

LETS TAKE IT SLOW
I'm 45, GBM, 5'11 170lbs, lean muscular run 35-45miles/wk, quiet and sweet. I'm currently looking for casual dating, someone who is in good shape,under 45, and who doesn't mind being with a nester but goes out occasionally. ☎779891 @ abnerkatz

MY BRIGHT WHITES
The first thing you'll notice about me is my killer smile! Spend some time with me, and you'll be enveloped by my charm, passion, love of life, and warm heart. I seek a companion who will be my best friend. ☎608548

LATIN GUY
5HM, 27, mature, healthy, outgoing brown/brown, not into bars, seeks adventurous masculine man, 21-35, for good times, dining out, quiet times, moviesand more. Friendship, possible LTR. ☎779836

A SONG IN MY HEART
Professional organist, theatrical accompanist, composer, 37, sincere, honest, reliable, mature, enjoys musicals, 80s rock, sci-fi, Harry Potter, likeconversation, concerts, community events, walks, dining out, cooking in. Seeking SM, 35-42. ☎758050 @ scottber11

MOHEGAN SUN?
Good-looking, clean-cut, in-shape WM, 33, 5'7", 145lbs, work out regularly, pretty new, seeks a similar, athletic guy. Someone who's a clean-cut,masculine, discreet, non-smoking WM, for friendship, travel, possibly more. Athletic, jock/prep guys only. ☎898896

LIFE IN THE OLD BOY
SWM, 60+, body mass index below 24, seeks same for relationship. Affectionate, healthy, brown/brown. Enjoys music, reading, walking, classic movies. Short and dark are pluses. ☎257837

NEW TO THE CITY
GWM, 48, 5'6", 130lbs, blond/blue, smoker, mechanical design engineer seeks WM, 30-50, smoker, to hang out with. ☎753748

WOBURN NORTH
Black dude, 36, 5'8", 175lbs, shaved head, muscular build, enjoys lifting, road trips, and computer games. Hard-working blue-collar type of guy,30-38, seeks a similar WM for friendship. ☎509784

BOYFRIEND WANTED
Athletic, healthy WM, 53, 5'6", 132lbs, loves fashion, film, the arts. Seeks older, professional WM. Serious romance only.☎561970

ONE OF A KIND
Is there someone out there who is not inhibited by a middle aged WM who appears to be 35years old, HIV negative, very attractive, great body,outrageous personality, impeccable dresser, who is financially secure, generous, loving, caring, and sensitive. Loves theater, symphony, old movies, travels extensively, dining out, and the good life. Please be attractive, 25-45, HIV negative, Caucasian or Hispanic. ☎967742

LET'S BE A TEAM
WM, 42, 5'10", 175lbs, brown hair, green eyes, attractive, masculine, healthy, fit- seeks attractive, masculine, healthy, fit man.☎544115

EXTRA LARGE
Looking for extra large SB/HM, 18-50, bodybuilder. Thin, clean-cut WM, 39, wants to meet you. ☎506387

SEEKS SPECIAL SOMEONE
Genuine, Portuguese-American GWM, 36, loyal, professionally employed, enjoys physical fitness, people, travel, social gatherings, friends, family.Seeking similar male. Would like friendship first, then dating, potential long term monogamous relationship. ☎465113

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

A NICE SMILE
GF, 50+, seeks same, with sincere, caring heart, sense of humor a must. Looking for that special lady in my life. Stoneham/North Shore area preferred.☎464291

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND
SF, 39, blonde/blue, likes the outdoors, animals, looking for WF, 30s, who likes the outdoors, animals, taking walks. Children ok.☎648652

TRUE LADY
Compassionate woman, strong-valued in principles, seeks same (30s), beautiful, warm, gracious, intelligent, mature, classy, sincere, feminine lady responsible in her ability to love and care for others. ☎458206

YUMMY AND YOUNG
I may be young, 18, but I know what I want! I'm a blue-eyed cutie with a penchant for Harley bikes, swimming, video games, and dining in excellentItalian restaurants. But I'll tell u more over pasta! ☎712864

SEEKING MISSES RIGHT
SW, who is hoping to find a partner who is honest and enjoys life, sunsets, cooking, swimming, etc.I work in the health and have a open mind and a big heart. ☎763323

GIRLY GIRL WANTED
This GWF, soft butch, seeks feminine GWF for dating, movies, laughter, dining out, and more. Light drinker, non-smoker. ☎968614

SEEKING BIG CHESTS
Seeking a person who would like to stay home and enjoy quiet times together. I seek pleasure in all forms. I hope you do too. 36-year-old woman, big-chested, 230lbs looking for another big woman. ☎622333

TWO HEARTS, ONE SOUL
GWF, romantic, Italian, blue eyes, attractive, kid-at-heart who likes Abercrombie, movies, pizza, pool, dancing, shopping, just having fun. Seeks honest, trustworthy, attractive GF who's femme, with no drama, 26-35, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. No butches or Bi's please. ☎609592

LOVE BEING A WOMAN
SWF, 27, cute, funny, smart, sarcastic, seeks beautiful woman, 23-30, with a quick wit, and sense of humor to keep me laughing. ☎781860 @ blusmiles78

GENEROUS GAL
I'm a giving, nurturing woman who is looking for a cute, petite, moody girl to love. I'm 5'9" with brown hair and eyes. I am a great snuggler, wonderful hugger. Education is very important to me! ☎769694

RECIPROCAL FRIENDSHIP
SBF, 24, seeking friends for companionship, dating, dinner, enjoying life, fun, hanging out, honesty, laughter, movies, sports and travel.☎990561

LOOKING FOR LUV!!
Yep, just like you, I'm looking for love, I'm a writer and artist who enjoys movies, being a home body, going out for dinner, late night escapades! ☎690574

COFFEE, TEA OR ME?
Looking for great, sensitive gal to make my heart flutter! NShore woman 52, also occasional smoker, needs chemistry to feed a ltr, hopefully. Brunettewith great personality to make you laugh! Please be close to NShore. ☎694248

INTEGRITY AND FUN
GWF, youngish 50's, 5'7, 135lbs, br/hazel, non-smoker, casual style, androgynously 'attractive', human-services professional, intelligent, witty, poet. Enjoys quiet times (music, books, mountain streams), dancing, small parties, traveling. ☎711431

KIT KAT CRAZY
I've got enough energy for two people, but I just want to be loved by you. I'm 20, blue eyes, blond hair, and would love to meet and enjoy some bakedhaddock. My secret: I dance in my mirror! ☎712853

JUST FRIENDS

RELATIVELY NEW IN NE
Outgoing, professional female couple, late 30s, athletic and active, looking to meet another female couple who enjoy golf, sports, outdoor activities,good wine, food, music and cultural events. non-smoker, please. Definitely no Bush supporters. ☎566494

MET YOU AT INTERPOL
You were Interpol, I The Killers. Kidney punches in the beer line, with your friend from Amsterdam -at your seats, which were better than mine. You're exuberant, laugh easily, have a smile like the sun, I never said goodbye. ☎707071

I SPY

PARADISE KNITERS SHOW
At Paradise Knitters (X) concert. You were looking for strewn guitar picks afterwards. We talked a little there and outside. I wish I had said more. John. ☎769680

WERE U ON THE T WED?
You squeezed your way off the T at Arlington. I was the tall blonde guy that should have said hello. ☎760952

BEST MUSIC POLL
Met you and your friend at the Best Music Poll concert with the Killers. I had a great time talking with you. Would love to see you again. ☎707090

NAKED BOY SINGING
J, talked to you 6/16 about taking the show on the road. Let's talk more over a drink or dinner. Brad. ☎722422

BAD DIRECTION, SORRY
Me - on the Eastern Prom, Tuesday 5/31. You - asked directions to USM. I'm sorry I lied. I would like to by you dinner to apologize, no strings attached. ☎693038

SAVAGE LOVE

_BY DAN SAVAGE

mail@savagelove.net

HOT FOR SMOKE

I'm a smoker who has decided it's time to quit. But my boyfriend has a smoking fetish. He likes it when I smoke while we're having sex; he likes to jerk off and watch me smoke; he likes me to smoke and give him oral sex at the same time. His porn collection is all smoking-related. I've really enjoyed participating in this fetish. However, I know I must quit. He has suggested that I might be able to smoke on occasion, but I know I can't. I am an addict, and I know that I won't able to smoke "just one" during sex. I am worried that my boyfriend will lose interest when I quit smoking. I know he loves me, but I'm worried that his fetish is strong enough to ruin our relationship if it's not fulfilled. Can a guy get over his fetish? Is there a way to replace his need for smoking with something that won't kill me? Or should I quit smoking and him at the same time?

_COMMITTED TO QUITTING

Guys don't ever get over their fetishes, CTQ, so I would urge you to quit smoking and quit the boyfriend at the same time. However fond he is of you, your boyfriend's smoking fetish predates your relationship and I guarantee you that it will postdate your relationship. If you attempt to stay together after you've quit, your boyfriend will either sabotage your resolve or your relationship. One way or the other, your boyfriend is going to be with a smoker. If you're serious about not smoking, he's not going to be with you. And if you find yourself tempted to take up smoking again to please him, just remind yourself no man is worth the risks. Cigarettes are disgusting, deadly, and addictive. (I'm talking to you too, Thomas.) Everyone everywhere should stop smoking this instant.

My best friend is obsessed with a character from *Yu-Gi-Oh!* called Kaiba. She dresses up like him and even claims to have masturbated to the show. It might seem okay for a 10-year-old boy to be this into a show based on battling cards, but she is a beautiful, intelligent 17-year-old girl. It's pointless! She constantly complains that none of the real guys at our high school are as good as Kaiba. What can I do to help her?

_NEEDS A MAJOR INTERVENTION

Your friend's obsession is juvenile and retarded, NAMI, but I wouldn't call it pointless. Like a lot of high-school kids, your friend probably feels pressured to be sexually active. (Pressured by you, perhaps?) Most not-quite-ready-for-sex teenagers hide behind Jesus' skirts when their friends ask why they're not fucking, but nonreligious kids have to be a bit more creative. Some, like your friend, invent grand/tragic sexual obsessions that prevent them from dating mere mortals. Your friend doesn't want you to think she's unhip, or that she isn't just dying to have sex, or that she isn't heterosexual, so she's convinced you (and perhaps herself) that she's obsessed with Kaiba. And you know what? That's just fine. Finding fault with all potential real-life boys is a way for her to avoid sexual experiences she's not ready for. So just back off, okay?

I am a transgender girl living in the heart of South Beach, Florida. I read your response to a woman who wanted to know if her boyfriend was gay because he had she-male porn on his computer. I must say that you gave her a response worthy of praise. I could not have said it better – and I am a living she-male type! I'm the girl the "straight" men go to after their female girlfriends go home. People have a misconception that she-males have sex with gay men. We don't. Men who are gay are attracted to men who represent men. Straight men are attracted to women, and some are attracted to she-males because we look like women. And yes, funny enough, most of them want us for the dick.

Many of these men are deeply ashamed of this part of their sexuality, and they sneak around fucking she-males. But if people knew that she-males only have sex with straight-lifestyle men, not gay men, that would take the shame away.

_SAMARA RIVIERA
www.samaratg.com

Thanks for sharing, Samara.

Apropos of nothing: I'm listening to the Dresden Dolls sing "Coin-Operated Boy" as I write these words. The Dolls are a terrific post-punk/goth/Brechtian rock duo. Everyone on earth needs to buy their CDs. ⊙

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Moon signs

_BY SYMBOLINE DAI

This week, Friday marks the last-quarter moon. My *Daily News* colleague Susan Miller doesn't think the quarters are worth highlighting, but I respectfully disagree. Use this week's lunar phase to put projects that began on or around August 3 into their final form. Look back at August 19 and see if complications entered the mix — they should be at a turning point now and over the weekend.

THURSDAY
AUGUST 25
Waning moon in Taurus. An all-day void-of-course moon says you better stay flexible with your schedule (and keep the receipts). Tauruses may sound more forceful than they think; choosing your battles is the better part of valor. Leos (especially July Lions) may get into trouble with the women in their lives. Virgo, be cautious about materialism – how can you be generous? VOC 2:14 am to 4:43 am Friday.

FRIDAY
AUGUST 26
Last-quarter moon in Gemini. Write or travel, but doing the same thing over and over won't work, particularly for Sagittarius and Pisces, who crave a different vista. Gemini, be persistent, but be aware that your impulse to "take it all on" is in fifth gear today. Libra and Aquarius may feel scattered, yet somehow prompted to try to change people who otherwise wouldn't merit a second glance. Whyzzat???

SATURDAY
AUGUST 27
Waning moon in Gemini. Get in touch with peers, siblings, or people your own age. Geminis have the most fun but may take on too much. Still, make room for any friends deemed "exotic." Sagittarius needs to be careful not to try too hard. People are listening to you – really. VOC 10:49 pm to 2:57 pm.

SUNDAY
AUGUST 28
Waning moon in Gemini/Cancer. If you don't leave the house early in the day, it will become darn near impossible as the hours wear on. Gemini, make time for creative endeavors, especially those that involve the graphic arts. Cancer, don't get talked into social situations you're not really interested in. VOC until 2:57 pm.

MONDAY
AUGUST 29
Waning moon in Cancer. A fine day for taking care of the basics, particularly when it comes to the way your office is your home (ghastly thought, I know). Cancer, others want to help you out (even if you think they're simply unloading their latest grievances). Capricorn: disengage from an overly emotional personality.

TUESDAY
AUGUST 30
Waning moon in Cancer. Another all-day void-of-course moon makes trouble for bakers, potters, or overeaters (too much is too much!). Aries and Capricorn, are you falling into the same old philosophy regarding women's roles? Cancer: shine (it on), butalso recharge. VOC 3:22 pm until 3:14 am Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 31
Waning moon in Leo. Finally, the rubber hits the road, and if persuading others is part of your job, you'll find it easy to roll out the hyperbole. Leo, look for areas of agreement, because the astrology this month says you may have a hard time overlooking trivia. Sagittarius and Aries, put an entertaining spin on your messages – you'll make more converts that way.

MOON KEYS
This horoscope traces the passage of the moon, not the sun. Simply read from day to day to watch the moon's influence as it moves through the signs of the zodiac. | When the moon is in your sun sign, you are beginning a new 28-day emotional cycle, and you can expect increased insight and emotionality. When the moon moves into the sun sign opposite yours (see below), expect to have difficulties dealing with the opposite sex, family, or authority figures; social or romantic activities will not be at their best. | When the moon is in Aries, it opposes Libra, and vice versa. Other oppositions are Taurus/Scorpio, Gemini/Sagittarius, Cancer/Capricorn, Leo/Aquarius, and Virgo/Pisces. The moon stays in each sign approximately two and a half days. | As the moon moves between signs, it will sometimes become "void of course," making no major angles to planets. Consider this a null time and try to avoid making or implementing decisions if you can. But it's great for brainstorming. | For Symboline Dai's sun sign horoscopes and advice column, visit our Web site at www.bostonphoenix.com.
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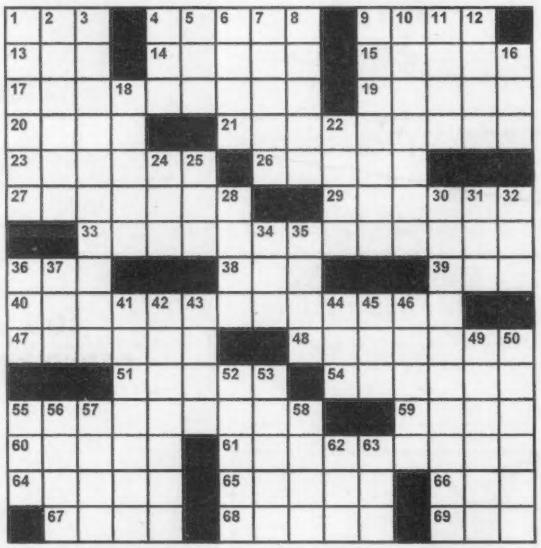
Jonesin'

_BY MATT JONES

"ROCK SHOW"—why that theme seems familiar.



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ACROSS
1 What some older golfers use as a scoring goal
4 Dessert at the drive-thru
9 Do a Chicken Dance move
13 "Friends" costar
14 Polytheist of sorts
15 Got fired up
17 Show whose originial theme song was done by Bill Haley and His Comets
19 Campfire bit
20 "___, Sing America" (Langston Hughes poem)
21 Cartoon show whose theme song is done by Les Claypool of Primus
23 Cell with an axon
26 Black Panther Party co-founder Bobby
27 Beginnings
29 Type of popcorn
33 The Presidents of the United States of America sang its theme (with "The")
36 News agcy.
38 Far less than quadri-
39 Linguist's suffix
40 Show whose theme was written and performed by Quincy Jones
47 "Hey, watch where you're going!" oaf
48 Feet-landing-first dives
51 Andorra neighbor
54 University in Philadelphia
55 With 61-across, show whose theme is sung by They Might Be Giants
59 End in ___
60 Menage a ___
61 See 55-across
64 Have a feeling
65 Sheltering sort
66 The Matterhorn, e.g.
67 Game with a "Livin' Large" expansion, with "The"
68 Borden bovine
69 Learned and smart, in rebus puzzles

DOWN
1 Like broken hearts
2 Popular facial hair
3 Bringing forth a statement
4 Bond, e.g.
5 Conned
6 "Jumpin' Jack Flash, it's ___..."
7 Knocks out cold
8 Come after
9 KISS member Ace
10 Snail relatives
11 Jessica of "Fantastic Four"
12 Fair jury member
16 Dwight Gooden's nickname
18 One who reads thoroughly
22 Have
24 Sugary suffix
25 Word in four state names
28 Gulf War missile
30 Tomorrow
31 ___ Lobos
32 She puts the "she" in "sheep"
34 Santa ___ winds
35 It comes in a small box
36 Kind of computer port
37 With 62-down, long-bearded teacher in "Kill Bill: Vol. 2"
41 Extreme form of government
42 Takes the anti side
43 Flesh and blood
44 He gets a holiday in June
45 Title for the unknown
46 2,004 years ago
49 Actor John C. ___ of "The Aviator"
50 Doc's mate
52 "___ One That I Want" (Margaret Cho album)
53 Nothing, in ancient Rome
55 Range components: abbr.
56 Bellicose god
57 "WKRP" alum Anderson
58 Beatty and Flanders, for two
62 See 37-down
63 Burning anger

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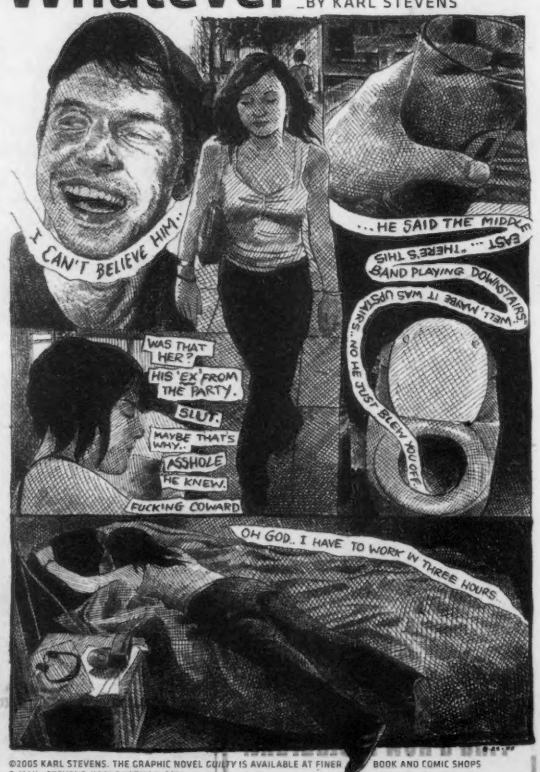
Whatever

_BY KARL STEVENS



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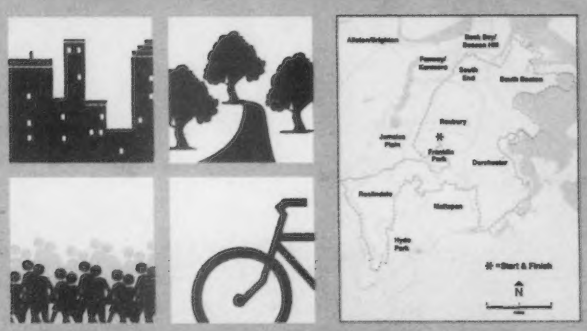

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